

Muslim riots against Americans spread

Anti-American violence spread further in the Muslim world, where the United States is rumoured to be responsible for the attack on the Great Mosque in Mecca. The Beduin, who seized the mosque at gunpoint, were driven back to the perimeter wall yesterday. They have proclaimed a new Mahdi, to lead Islam.

Shock waves from the Iranian revolution

Edward Mortimer

Shock waves from the Iranian revolution, and from the seizure by a fanatical sect of the shrine of the Kaaba in Mecca, continued to reverberate through the Muslim world yesterday, the third day of the year 1400 in the Islamic calendar.

Anti-American rioting spread in Turkey, where Muslim students shouting anti-American and anti-Zionist slogans led to the storming of the residence of the United States' consul in Ankara, where about 300 students demonstrated in front of the American Embassy in Mecca, accusing the CIA of involvement in the Mecca attack.

In Damascus, a Syrian radio broadcast also blamed the United States for the incident, warning an immediate American protest. In Mecca itself, fighting continued inside the shrine, with official reports saying that government troops had driven Beduin insurgents to the floor of the perimeter wall.

The insurgents are not members of the Shia sect to which the Kaaba belongs, as early reports had said. They came from the Oteiba, an important Beduin tribe in central Arabia, and are thought to be members of the Ikhwan, or "brothers", a fighting religious group which adheres to an especially puritanical version of the Sunnah, or orthodox Islam. The Ikhwan were the "black troops" of King Abdulaziz Ibn Saud when he was

building the Saudi kingdom in the early years of this century, but later got out of hand and had to be suppressed by force.

Certainly on the religious level these extreme puritans would have little in common with the Shia, which emphasises the ceremonial and hierarchical aspects of Islam; and their action, in seizing armed force inside Islam's holiest shrine is profoundly shocking to the great majority of Muslims whether Sunni or Shia.

But on the cultural level they may be expressing a revulsion against the Islamic revolution in Iran, aimed against the corruption and westernization that has come with the oil boom and the over-rapid development policies pursued by its rulers.

Certainly their revolt, coming on top of the Iranian revolution and the attempts by some Iranian leaders to stir up the Shia population on the Arab side of the Gulf against their Sunni rulers, is a severe blow to the prestige of the Saudi royal family, which had hitherto appeared to be in total control of its country and to have the sanction of religious authority on its side.

It was natural in the circumstances that some Saudi leaders should have jumped to the conclusion, when they first heard of the incident, that Iran and the Shia were behind it, and perhaps understandable that Ayatollah Khomeini, in his present state of anti-American hysteria, should have suspected an American plot to turn Muslims against each other.



Coming home: Sgt James Hughes of the United States Air Force embraces his son upon arriving in Maryland with 12 other hostages released earlier by Muslim students occupying the American Embassy in Tehran. They were met by Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State.

The Iranian students say they have also set another five hostages free because there was no more space. The five were from the Philippines, Pakistan, South Korea and Bangladesh. The Pakistani, however, has offered to stay in the embassy. Report page 6

2,000 Saudi troops drive Beduin back to walls around Kaaba

From Our Correspondent Jiddah, Nov 22

Fighting continued inside the Holy Haram, surrounding the Great Mosque of Mecca this afternoon. Latest unofficial reports said that an estimated 2,000 troops had driven the Beduin insurgents to the first floor of the perimeter walls.

The Haram is an open area large enough to accommodate 100,000 people. It is ringed by a one-storey wall built by the Ottomans and a surrounding two-storey wall of King Saud's that contains offices and arched and covered areas for praying. In the centre of the Haram stands the Kaaba, the housing for the Black Stone that is the focus of prayers and pilgrimage.

The 300 Beduin, mostly young men of the Oteiba tribe, armed with automatic rifles, entered the Haram at the dawn prayer on Tuesday, the first day of the Muslim fifteenth century. They demanded an official declaration by the Imam in charge of the Haram that their leader, a 26-year-old Beduin called Muhammad Abdullah, was the Mahdi prophesied as the cleanser of Islam. He refused.

The authorities closed the 27 doors to the Haram, and the Beduin locked them from the inside and prepared for a fight. There cannot have been fewer than 5,000 people in the Haram at the time, although no official figures are available.

The only official statement today on the fighting came this morning from Mr Muhammad Abdul Yaman, the information Minister, who said that many prisoners had been taken. He expected the opposition to be crushed "in a few hours".

The Army's penetration into the Haram followed at least four unsuccessful assaults which witnesses said were "fought off with heavy casualties. Beduin snipers in the seven minarets of the Haram proved effective, and an earlier attempt to pick them off from helicopters was repulsed. In one assault, shells fired to shatter doors, went right through them and killed worshippers inside.

The troops involved are drawn from every section of the Saudi armed forces, equipped with armoured troop carriers and jeep-mounted recoilless rifles. The risk of damaging the Kaaba clearly precluded the use of heavy weapons. Prince Sulayman, the Minister of Defence and Aviation, and Prince Naif, the Interior Minister, were directing operations.

Who are the Oteiba? page 6

Contrary to reports, no hostages were taken. The Beduin made no attempt to detain those in the Haram when they took it over, and many escaped through holes in the wall left by workmen. Those who stayed

behind apparently did so voluntarily, preferring to continue their devotions.

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Mr Jenkins wants 'radical centre'

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Making what he admitted was an unashamed plea for the strengthening of the "radical centre" in British politics, Mr Roy Jenkins, the former deputy leader of the Labour Party, last night came out for proportional representation in elections.

Giving the eighth Richard Dimbleby lecture on BBC 1 in prime time, Mr Jenkins argued that the excessive partnership of the present system fostered the industrial mood that was "rapidly turning Britain into a manufacturing desert". He would not finally say that a change in political alignments would be bound to improve British national performance, but he thought it would help, and it would certainly improve our politics.

Mr Jenkins argued that the aspirations of the British people would be met by a revival of the centre in politics. He said that the "pull" far more towards the centre than towards the extremes.

However, he kept viewers guessing over how or whether he would return to British politics from the EEC.

He has just over a year left of his term as President of the EEC Commission in Brussels.

Last night the most tantalising remark he made was to suggest that whether party splits produced electoral slaughter. He was not sure. He thought the electorate could tell a hawk from a hand-saw and that if it saw a new grouping which collected and relevant policies emerging it might be more attracted by this new reality than by old labels.

He spoke frequently of a "break out" of escaping from the "constricting rigidity" of the present party system.

While promoting proportional representation, Mr Jenkins also came out strongly against the left wing of the Labour Party in its present battle for reforms. If MPs had to be re-elected in a full primary election not by a "people's court".

He was also anxious over the "loss of the 'relieving force' of the Labour Party which he saw as the trade unions. If that happened he doubted whether the British people would want both a trade union-dominated and a non-state government on top of the power of the unions".

Much of Mr Jenkins's speech will be of fascination to Labour members and even more to Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader. Without waiting for proportional representation, Mr Steel would like disaffected Labour moderates to seek some kind of alliance. A grouping of Mr Jenkins could have appeal, but after last night Mr Jenkins could hardly hope to be adopted as a Labour candidate for a by-election.

Last night Mr Steel said: "I welcome Roy Jenkins's analysis of what is wrong with Britain's political structure. It accords with the view put forward by the Liberal Party during the last general election. Roy Jenkins is one of the growing number of people who now realize that the two-party pendulum is the root cause of our national decline."

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Treasury forecasts point to sharp downturn in output

By Caroline Atkinson

Britain faces a sharp 2 per cent fall in output next year, according to the Treasury's own forecasts which were published yesterday. In addition, inflation is expected to stay in double figures throughout 1980. However, it should fall back to 14 per cent by the fourth quarter of next year, compared with the present rate of 17 per cent. A £2,000m balance of payments deficit is also projected for 1980, below this year's expected £2,300m deficit.

Yesterday's forecasts were much more pessimistic than those published at the time of the Budget in June. They assume that the level of pay settlements is now coming down in response to the Government's fiscal and monetary policies.

The stock market fell slightly on news of the Treasury's gloomy figures. The Financial Times ordinary index closed 12 points down on the day at 411.0. Sterling was little affected and finished slightly higher against the dollar at \$2.175.

The forecasts were hedged about with warnings that they were extremely uncertain, and subject to exceptionally wide margins of error. It is known that the Treasury ministers had severe disagreements with officials about the degree of pessimism in the forecasts. The Treasury economists originally projected a fall of 3 to 4 per cent in output and a higher inflation rate.

The dismal picture from the forecasts was reflected in a warning from Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the "process of adjustment to economic reality cannot be free from pain". Speaking at a conference of the Westminster Chamber of Commerce yesterday, the Chancellor stressed the overriding priority which the Government gives to reducing inflation.

The Government believes that lower inflation is the first step towards prosperity. Yesterday's forecasts indicate that the road to lower inflation could be very hard. Real personal incomes are expected to fall next year as British output drops, though the Government does not put a figure on this fall. Figures published yesterday by the Department of Health and Social Security assume that pay will rise the average by 14 per cent in 1979-80 and 1980-81.

Surprisingly the Government forecasts a rise of 0.5 per cent in consumer spending next year. This will come as people save less and spend more of their incomes, according to the official assumption.

Despite the drop in output and rising oil revenues from the North Sea, the Treasury expects a huge payments deficit on the current account of the balance of payments next year. Britain's trading performance has been little short of

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Mortgage rate rise is approved

By Margaret Stone

The loss of a record 15 per cent in cost for new borrowers and from January 1 for existing borrowers, Mr Leonard Williams, chairman of the Building Societies' Association announced yesterday.

The decision, widely expected, was taken at an emergency meeting yesterday, called in response to the Chancellor's financial squeeze last week, and spearheaded by a rise in Minimum Lending Rate to 17 per cent.

The interest rate paid to investors is to be increased at the beginning of next month from 8.75 per cent, tax paid, to 10.5 per cent, which is equivalent to a gross yield of 15 per cent for basic rate taxpayers.

The interest rate on mortgage loans is to be raised from 11.75 per cent to 15 per cent by-passing the 12.5 per cent that the societies had been expecting to charge borrowers from January 1. At the request of the Government the association agreed to postpone a rise in the mortgage interest until 1980 although the planned increase in the investment rate went ahead, a gesture which cost the movement around £60m.

The impact on domestic budgets of the rise in the mortgage rate will be severe. The average £12,000 loan will now cost £154.80 (£109.80 net) a month instead of £125.40 (£90.15). Although the societies will be advising those who can to pay the extra, they recognize that many will face hardship.

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British plan sets up 5 sites for front men

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Mr Gerard Fitt, leader and founder of the Social Democratic and Labour Party in Ulster, resigned from the party yesterday after a fundamental disagreement with the majority of his colleagues.

He had resigned because "I could no longer live with my conscience as a socialist and as a social democrat", he told a press conference at the Commons.

His departure comes after his failure to persuade the executive of his party to attend the Government's proposed four-party conference on devolution for Northern Ireland. "It is obvious there is no meeting of minds between me and my colleagues", he said.

Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who dismissed suggestions that the proposed conference was "a futile and painful tribute to Mr Fitt in the Commons. He said: "It must be a sad moment for him to have felt it necessary to resign from the leadership of the party which he founded."

Answering Northern Ireland questions in the Commons, Mr Atkins said he hoped that people could be persuaded that the conference, where all the parties sit down together, was the best way forward.

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Mr Fitt quits party over stand on talks

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Professor Blunt kept watch on exiles

By Stewart Tendler
and Ian Bradley

At the time Professor Anthony Blunt, the "fourth man" in the Philby Affair, was passing information to the Russians, his job at MI5 included watching various exiled governments based in wartime London.

The governments included those of Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Poland, Greece, Holland, Belgium and Norway. Professor Blunt would have been in a useful position to pick up intelligence of value to the Russians in the postwar period when the countries were being reconstructed.

Details of the politicians, their attitudes and their private lives might have aided the Russians in assessing the successful spread of communism after the war.

In the wartime years there were power struggles within the Yugoslav and Polish groups, and Blunt might have been able to play.

The exile groups also included politicians with left wing persuasions. Again, the Russians would have been interested in how far those persuasions went and could be of use.

According to a former Secret Service colleague, Professor Blunt was also responsible for monitoring neutral embassies in London. These included Spain and Portugal, whose then fascist

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HOME NEWS

BL warns union over striking in support of dismissed steward

By Clifford Webb and Donald MacIntyre

Mr Pat Lowry, British Leyland's director of personnel, last night warned the union directly involved in the dismissal of Mr Derek Robinson, the conveyor, that industrial action in his support was jeopardizing the future of the company. About 32,000 workers are on strike.

Mr Lowry took the unusual step of sending an open letter to Sir John Boyd, the union's general secretary, attempting to justify in detail the decision to dismiss Mr Robinson. He did so after an informal meeting with Mr Terence Duffy, the union's president, and two members of the executive of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

On Tuesday, the executive is expected to consider calls for strikes in support of Mr Robinson to be made official.

Mr Lowry wrote: "Those of British Leyland employees not on strike must make up their minds, and quickly, where they stand. They can return to work, leaving the AUEW, if it is to pursue the policy of Mr Robinson through normal procedural channels. Alternatively they put at risk the company and their own future in it."

With both sides digging in for what could be the most critical confrontation since Sir Michael Edwards became chairman of British Leyland,

Mr Mostyn (Moss) Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, called for an urgent summit meeting. He said, in Birmingham: "I think Leyland have made a serious mistake in sacking Mr Robinson. Mr Robinson is not just an AUEW member, but has been elected by all the shop stewards at Leyland to represent them, and therefore we are very involved."

A mass meeting of 8,000 workers at the company's commercial vehicle factories at Leyland, Lancashire, yesterday overwhelmingly rejected the shop stewards' recommendation that they should join the strike against Mr Robinson's dismissal.

But the strike in the car factories is beginning to have serious repercussions. Production of the Mini, Allegro, to name a few, is being delayed. The Leyland, MGB and Midget is at a standstill. Only Jaguar and Rover saloons, Land-Rover, Range Rover and the Sherpa are still being produced last night.

The most serious strike involves 5,700 workers at the Castle Bromwich plant which produces bodies for Jaguar and Rover. It will be only a matter of days before production of those models is also halted.

Mr Fitt's resignation shakes Ulster Catholics

SDLP may turn from moderation

From Christopher Thomas

Northern Ireland was bursting with rumour and speculation last night about the political consequences of the resignation of Mr Gerard Fitt from the Social, Democratic and Labour Party.

Stormont officials were clearly taken by surprise and the decision opens up several crucial questions about the future direction of the party.

Mr Fitt, a founder-member of the SDLP, had managed to steer the party gently away from its intransigent stance towards the British Government into a much more moderate position of viewing unity with Ireland as a long-term, albeit passionate aspiration.

His suggestion that Sinn Féin is getting a tighter grip on the SDLP, if true, is a serious indication of the party's drift to the right.

The indications are that the party may now move deeper down the road to republicanism, thus intensifying the serious divide between the two communities.

Mr Fitt has often hinted in recent months that he has had enough, but his resignation still took most of the party by surprise. There has been no obvious jockeying for position for the leadership.

Among the possible candidates are: Mr John Hume, a fluent French-speaker with an international reputation, a Euro-MP, and deputy leader of the party, Mr Gerard Fitt yesterday bowed out of the party he founded, worn down by the grinding of its political complexity. The nationalist element in the Social Democratic and Labour Party, always a powerful force since its creation ten years ago, have gained the upper hand.

Mr Fitt, the Belfast working-class socialist who grows a de-stigmatised strident nationalism, whenever its manifestation, has been pushed aside.

Voluble and emotional, not even he can eclipse his image of being a man of courage, even when he sometimes gives the impression of being the fourth man in a Marx Brothers film, wisecracking his way

‘Barometer’ coalfield leaders vote for action

By Paul Routledge

Preparations for the miners' strike began yesterday and the first indications from a "barometer" coalfield suggest that leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers will be given the support they seek for industrial action.

The area executive of the Lancashire miners, whose poll is normally within a few percentage points of the actual outcome of the vote, voted unanimously to support the NUM executive in rejecting the National Coal Board's "final" 20 per cent pay offer.

Vincent, the NUM coalfield secretary, will recommend that course of action to a special conference of pit delegates tomorrow. He said last night: "I believe that the NCB could have offered more money."

In Yorkshire coalfield leaders are predicting privately that no less than 70 per cent of the area's 65,000 pitmen will support the call for strike action.

Mr Arthur Scarrell, the left-wing area president of the NUM, is to address rallies in Castleford and Rothwell on Sunday.

Area leaders in the other coalfield that usually votes close to the national average, North Derbyshire, do not meet until Monday.

In Nottingham, the country's second largest coalfield, the line will not become clear until an area council meeting on Monday.

But both coalfield members of the NUM national executive, left and right, will support a ballot wording calling on members to give the union's leaders authority to call various forms of industrial action.

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Voluble and emotional, not even he can eclipse his image of being a man of courage, even when he sometimes gives the impression of being the fourth man in a Marx Brothers film, wisecracking his way

through the maelstrom and chaos in his beloved province.

Perhaps Westminster got it only half right, because Mr Fitt has seen the darker shading of the green in his party for some time. He represented the urban working class, Catholic minority of Belfast, but out in the countryside the nationalists inside his party, equally as articulate and in some cases better educated, were moving in for the takeover. The SDLP, he tells his close friends, is "going Provo."

But there is no denying his courage. He has fought for his political views in the security of the parliamentary chamber and on the dangerous streets of Belfast. He has gone further by fighting the IRA in his home, holding them back with his gun

City grants £7m to Barbican arts centre

By Martin Huckerby

Final approval for the Barbican Arts and Conference Centre to provide a comprehensive programme of events was given yesterday by the City of London's Court of Common Council when it approved subsidies of nearly £7m for running costs in the first five years.

The plans for the centre, which is likely to cost about £106m, came under considerable criticism at the meeting, council members calling the project a folly and demanding greater concentration on using it for profitable conferences.

An attempt was made to cut the arts activities by refusing a subsidy to allow the London Symphony Orchestra to use the centre's concert hall as a resident orchestra for three months each year.

That would have thrown into jeopardy all the plans for coordinated artistic events in the centre, but after an attack on "the Philistines" the proposal was rejected by 95 votes to 35.

As a result of yesterday's decision contracts can be signed for bookings in the centre and negotiations begun on the detailed agreements with the LSO and also with the Royal Shakespeare Company, whose new London home will be the Barbican Theatre.

The estimated loss in the first year of operation is about £2.5m, although it is suggested that by the fifth year income from the centre's hall as a resident orchestra for three months each year.

An official opening of the centre is expected in October, 1981, but regular programmes of that year.

Apart from the LSO in the concert hall there will be conferences and concerts by other orchestras and of light and popular music.

Other features of the centre will include an art gallery and sculpture garden, three cinemas, restaurants and bars, book and record shops and space for live entertainment in the foyers.

There will also be what an official at the centre described as "a huge conservatory which is the corporation's answer to Kew Gardens and the Royal Horticultural Society."

In addition to the City's subsidy to the LSO, estimated at £160,000, the Arts Council has agreed in principle to give the centre an extra £120,000 a year for the first three seasons at the Barbican. The Greater London Council is considering a plan to grant it an extra £40,000.

The orchestra is hoping to give its first concert at the Barbican towards the end of 1981. It is already planning a month in March, 1982, with concerts under Claudio Abbado and Karl Böhm.

Mr Anthony Camden, chairman of the London Symphony Orchestra, in the auditorium of the Barbican concert hall.

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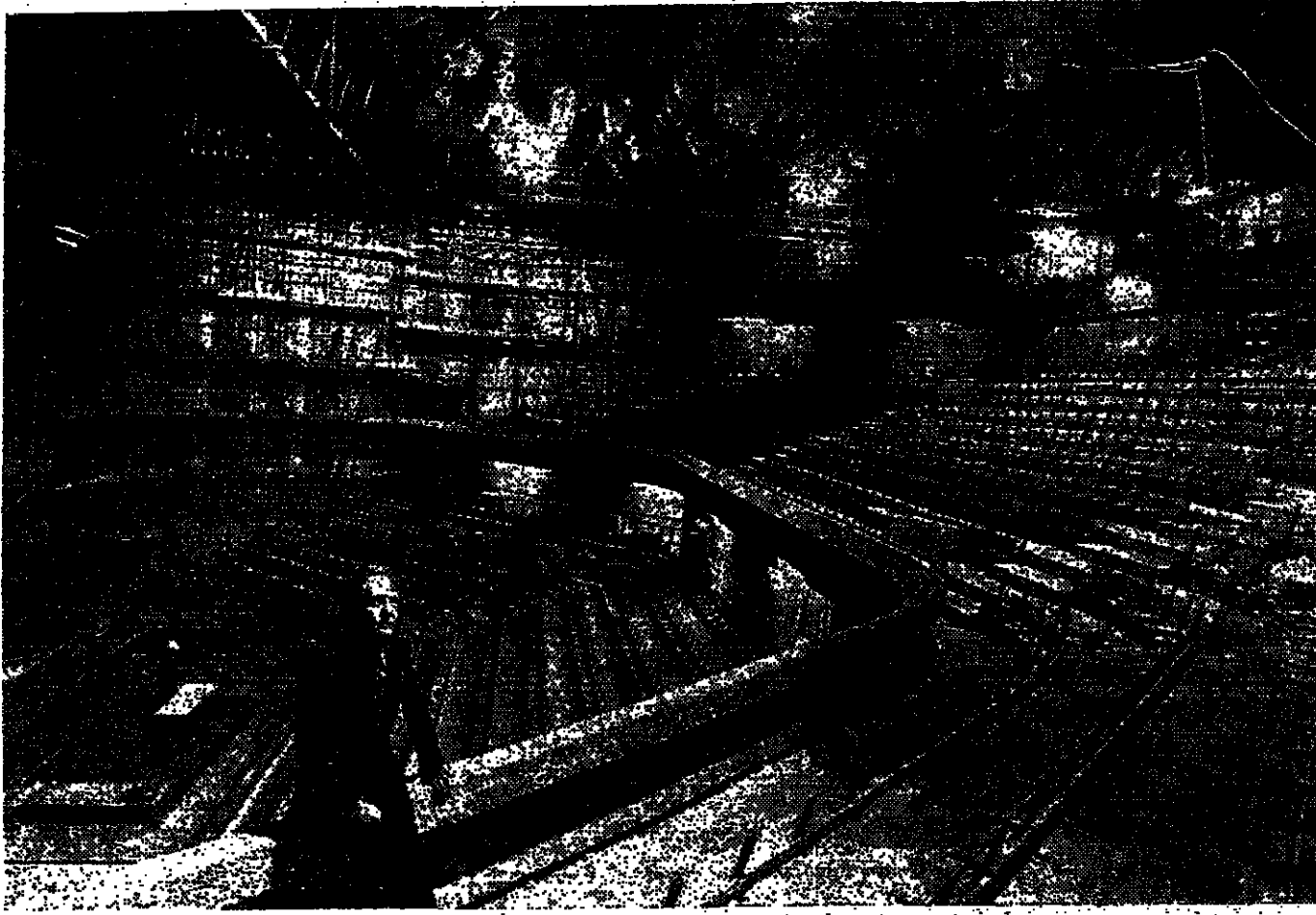
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The plans for the centre, which is likely to cost about £106m, came under considerable criticism at the meeting, council members calling the project a folly and demanding greater concentration on using it for profitable conferences.

An attempt was made to cut the arts activities by refusing a subsidy to allow the London Symphony Orchestra to use the centre's concert hall as a resident orchestra for three months each year.

That would have thrown into jeopardy all the plans for coordinated artistic events in the centre, but after an attack on "the Philistines" the proposal was rejected by 95 votes to 35.

As a result of yesterday's decision contracts can be signed for bookings in the centre and negotiations begun on the detailed agreements with the LSO and also with the Royal Shakespeare Company, whose new London home will be the Barbican Theatre.

The estimated loss in the first year of operation is about £2.5m, although it is suggested that by the fifth year income from the centre's hall as a resident orchestra for three months each year.

An official opening of the centre is expected in October, 1981, but regular programmes of that year.

Apart from the LSO in the concert hall there will be conferences and concerts by other orchestras and of light and popular music.

Other features of the centre will include an art gallery and sculpture garden, three cinemas, restaurants and bars, book and record shops and space for live entertainment in the foyers.

There will also be what an official at the centre described as "a huge conservatory which is the corporation's answer to Kew Gardens and the Royal Horticultural Society."

In addition to the City's subsidy to the LSO, estimated at £160,000, the Arts Council has agreed in principle to give the centre an extra £120,000 a year for the first three seasons at the Barbican. The Greater London Council is considering a plan to grant it an extra £40,000.

The orchestra is hoping to give its first concert at the Barbican towards the end of 1981. It is already planning a month in March, 1982, with concerts under Claudio Abbado and Karl Böhm.

Mr Anthony Camden, chairman of the London Symphony Orchestra, in the auditorium of the Barbican concert hall.

City grants £7m to Barbican arts centre

By Martin Huckerby

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Court refuse order to nullify tax amnesty

By Penny Symon

The Nations Federation of Self-Employed and Small Businesses failed yesterday in its attempt to get a declaration in the High Court that the tax amnesty granted to casual printing workers on national newspapers was illegal.

The federation, which had also sought an order mandating the Inland Revenue to assess and collect back tax from them, will apply today for a hearing of an appeal as a matter of urgency.

Lord Widgery, the Lord Chief Justice, sitting with Mr Justice Griffiths, said that the case was an interesting and unusual one. It was not surprising that people who had to pay every last penny in tax resented the amnesty.

The federation, however, had not been able to show that they did have sufficient interest of legal standing to ask for the order and declaration.

Mr Justice Griffiths, agreeing, added that if the federation had been granted the order to change the legality of the amnesty, then the same right would go to millions of other taxpayers, and the court could be swamped.

Mr Jon Harvey, Q.C. for the federation, said earlier that it was the duty of the Inland Revenue to behave fairly. But it had effectively told the casual printing workers that they behaved well in the future they would be forgiven for the past.

If this group of 50,000 taxpayers could sue the Inland Revenue to behave fairly, then nobody can, he said.

The federation brought the case because it became aware that the use of fictitious names by casual printing workers in Fleet Street meant a loss of about £1m a year in income tax. An investigation into 90,000 casual typists showed that most of the names and addresses were fictitious.

The Inland Revenue, in an attempt to recover some of its lost tax, had made a special arrangement for discussion with employers and union representatives. If a casual worker produced a union card corresponding with the information on his pay docket, he would be paid back the tax assessed for him in the normal way. If not, tax at the basic rate would be deducted.

It was also agreed that if casual workers registered with the tax inspector before April 6, 1979 and cooperated in settling his affairs, investigations would not be carried out for the year before April 1, 1977.

Mr Thomas intervened when Mr Robert Cryer, Labour MP for Keighley, tried to raise the subject matter of his complaint in the Commons. Mr Cryer had just got to the point of referring to "totally inaccurate and misleading remarks" when the Speaker interrupted.

He said it was the rule of the House that an MP did not refer to the subject matter of a privilege complaint until he (the Speaker) had mentioned it in the House.

"I am giving urgent consideration to it and he will hear within a reasonable time," Mr Thomas said.

Last night Mr Cryer confirmed his complaint in a letter to the Speaker. Mr Amery is considering making a statement in the Commons today.

Earlier, in a statement made outside the Commons, Mr Martin Flannery, Labour MP for Sheffield, Hillsborough, challenged Mr Amery to name the 12.

It was Mr Amery's duty to put them on the record and prove his allegations to be true, arrangements for Maclean's flight, a journey in which he was joined by Burgess."

She also said that on one occasion between 1951 and 1956 Professor Blunt helped Mr Philby to contact Russian intelligence he had access to. She did not say what that was.

Mr Thatcher also said: "There was no doubt that British interests were seriously damaged by the activities of Professor Blunt."

The Prime Minister's speech also directly contradicted Professor Blunt's interview with the Times on two important points. Professor Blunt said that his contact with the Russians came as a result of Mr Burgess's flight and that he had no further contact with the Russian intelligence.

In his statement, Professor Blunt said that he was in contact with the Russians on the behalf of Burgess.

Mr Thatcher said that Professor Blunt was used by Mr Burgess as "contact with a Soviet controller to help the

Mountbatten bomb meant 'only to destroy boat'

From Annabel Ferriman

The bomb planted on Lord Mountbatten's boat, might not have been intended to kill him, even if the defence counsel said at the Special Criminal Court in Dublin yesterday.

Mr Patrick McEntee, for the defence of Thomas, McMahon, said in his closing speech that his client put the bomb on Lord Mountbatten's boat, it might have been there some time and the intention might have been only to destroy the boat.

Mr McMahon, aged 31, a fitter, of Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan, and Francis McGil, aged 24, a gravedigger, of Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim, both deny murdering Lord Mountbatten, who died when his boat was blown up at Mullaghmore, Co. Sligo, on August 27.

McEntee said: "What was intended was that the boat should be destroyed and destroyed at a time when the place was deserted."

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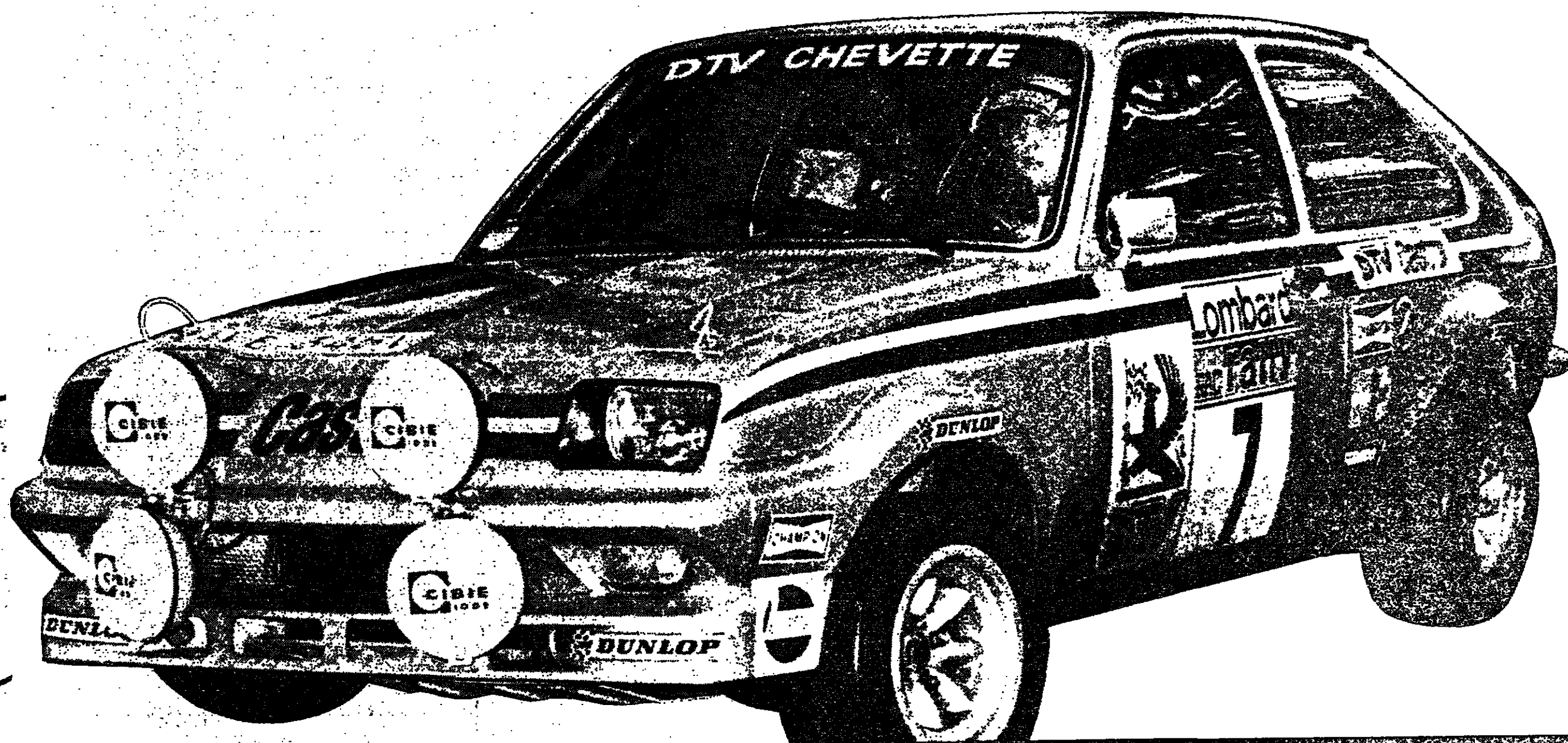
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The new champion.



Pentti Airikkala—Vauxhall Chevette

Pentti Airikkala, driving a Dealer Team Vauxhall Chevette, became the new British Open Rally Champion* at the end of the crippling Lombard RAC Rally on Wednesday night.

It's a fitting climax to a great season for DTV and the Chevettes.

Pentti himself with fellow Finn Risto Virtanen won three international rallies outright: the Circuit of Ireland, the Scottish, and the Ulster. On that last rally, DTV's other driver Jimmy McRae followed Pentti home in a triumphant Chevette one-two.

Jimmy too has had his share of success. He came a close second in the Castrol/

Autosport British Rally Championship driving the S.M.T. single-cam Chevette.

Meanwhile the Evans brothers in their Vincent Greenhous Chevette were runners-up in the Esso/BTRDA Championship.

And abroad, Jan van der Marel in another Chevette won the Dutch Rally Championship for the second year running.

All of which says a great deal for the drivers and mechanics.

And even more for the robust and reliable Chevette. Congratulations to all concerned. It's clearly a winners' car.

VAUXHALL  

*Subject to official confirmation.

HOME NEWS

Report going to DPP on man who died in custody of police

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A comprehensive report on the death of Mr James Kelly while in police custody has been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Kenneth O'Connell, the Chief Constable of Merseyside, said in a statement issued yesterday.

Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation, told members in the Merseyside Police last night: "You all know that a campaign of abuse has been going on in this area for a long time."

"Recently it has been taken up by television and radio, by the national press, by some MPs and by the usual rag-bag of people who spend most of their time in shining at the police service. I am sorry to say that some members of the Merseyside police have also climbed on the bandwagon."

One of the concerns expressed in the statement is that Sir Harold Wilson, who represents Hulton, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, told him in a letter on November 20 that he was aware of the public disquiet and of the demands for a public inquiry.

An investigation into the death of Mr Kelly, aged 55, a labourer, was carried out by Mr David Gerry, an assistant chief constable of the West Midlands Police. Sir Thomas Hertherton, the DPP, is to give his independent consideration to the possible need for criminal proceedings.

In accordance with the Police Act, 1976, a report will be sent to the independent Police Complaints Board for its consideration and possible need for disciplinary proceedings.

Sir Harold said on Wednesday: "I still believe that an impartial and independent inquiry is necessary, but clearly this award he ruled out, perhaps for a long time, if there was any reference to the courts."

"I trust therefore that every effort will be made to decide this issue and that if there is no prosecution, the independent inquiry I have proposed will be set up, whether as a tribunal or in some other way, which will enable them to compel evidence and be as thorough as the public as to its thoroughness."

The call for a public inquiry was endorsed by Knowsley District Council. A motion to that effect and, also expressing alarm

at recent police activities in the Hulton area, was passed unanimously.

Mr Jardine told Merseyside policemen last night that the chairman of their branch board, PC F. Jones, had spoken about "the vicious campaign which has been mounted against the Merseyside Police."

Mr Jardine went on: "I can tell you that there are signs of a technique in which police forces are being picked off one at a time. The idea is to get together examples of one or two cases and build up a picture of a brutal police force."

The 200 members of the Special Patrol Group in London were depicted as some kind of occupation army having more in common with the Gestapo and the SS than the British police, he said.

The SPC amounts to less than 1 per cent of the total strength of the Metropolitan Police," he said. Its members mostly carried out routine duties to aid the permanent divisions.

"Yet every crime in the book is laid at the door of a handful of men. They are slandered on posters and in certain sections of the press as murderers. As far as Blair Peach is concerned, we must await the findings of the public inquiry."

Referring to complaints against Merseyside policemen accusing them of brutality and assault, he did not deny that there were serious issues. But Britain was one of the few countries in the world which had a law laying down proper procedures for the investigation of complaints against police.

The police had done nothing to be ashamed of as a service. He asked that all people with no prosecution, the independent inquiry I have proposed will be set up, whether as a tribunal or in some other way, which will enable them to compel evidence and be as thorough as the public as to its thoroughness."

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Advice body on personal services to be scrapped

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The Government is to scrap the Personal Social Services Council, one of the last two policy advisory bodies to ministers, as part of its axe on quangos.

The decision, expected to be announced before the end of this parliamentary session, is seen as a political move to silence a watchdog which has been critical of local and central government policy on social services.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, has announced his intention in letters to the two main local authority associations which meet half the cost of the PSSC. The Association of County Councils and the Association of Municipal Authorities have been asked to respond by December 30 that Mr Jenkin can announce his decision after consulting them.

He proposes to retain some of the functions of the PSSC in other ways, notably by transferring research to the National Institute of Social Work. He will continue the statutory children's committee set up by his predecessor, initially for three years.

The committee is administered jointly by the PSSC and the other surviving advisory body, the Central Health Services Council, which is also believed to be in danger.

Scrapping the PSSC will save little money. The budget for next year has been set at £214,000, shared equally between the Department of Health and Social Security and the local authority associations.

Some of the budget will still have to be spent, since the PSSC fulfils a statutory role in providing advice on children to the Secretary of State. The council was established in 1973 and replaced three advisory bodies covering children, old people and the handicapped.

The last Labour government scrapped policy advisory bodies on education and housing. The future of the PSSC is expected to be discussed at a routine meeting next week at the department. Neither local authority associations is expected to object to the proposal to scrap the body, which has been irritated by its critical reports, notably on the quality of care in residential homes for children, old people and the handicapped.

Several directors of social service want the PSSC to continue its work as the only guardian of social service standards in England and Wales. They are angry at what they see as a lack of real consultation, since Mr Jenkin has not proposed options for the council's future but has said that he will close the PSSC unless the associations produce "overwhelming case" for its continuance.

Mr Jenkin's decision is believed to have been taken very recently. A factor may have been the council's work in monitoring social service cuts. Its last report pointed out that, contrary to Government statements of intent, the most vulnerable people were being hurt by the cuts, which were being implemented so hastily as to impede efficiency and desirable developments in community care.

That report remains a staff document and has not been endorsed by the council, half of whose members are appointed by the Secretary of State to give representation to providers of specific services in the voluntary sector and academic expertise. The other half are nominated by the local authority associations and professional bodies.

The council was established as a research and development advisory body and has initiated investigations into areas of social service work which might otherwise have been ignored. Much of its work pursues subjects which support government policy.

It is not yet clear how soon the council will be axed. About 16 staff members are expected to lose their jobs.

Polytechnic cancels its graduation ceremony

By David Nicholson-Lord

Graduation ceremonies at the City of London Polytechnic were cancelled yesterday because of fears of disruption by protests at the increase in fees to overseas students.

News of the cancellation was sent by letter to the 500 students who were to have been awarded their degrees and diplomas at the ceremonies at Guildhall on November 30 and December 14. The reason given was the possibility of disruption occupying parts of the polytechnic for the last three weeks.

The cancellation was condemned by the students' union. Miss Anne Davies, its president, said the action had been taken without consultation. The occupation had been peaceful and

there had been no threat to disrupt the proceedings.

"A lot of people will be very disappointed," she added. "After studying for three years they want to feel that somebody in the polytechnic has actually realised their existence."

Mr Peter Burrell, secretary of the polytechnic, acknowledged that there was no specific threat of disruption at Guildhall, but an "extremely slight" risk remained.

"We felt it was wrong to place at risk premises like Guildhall, which do not belong to us, and the many people who would be there."

The students' action is part of a national campaign by the National Union of Students against fee increases to over-

seas students. Some 150 students at the polytechnic are occupying a registry. Mr Burrell said it was not known whether a new date was to be fixed for the ceremonies.

Lord Boyle's warning: Overseas students could be priced out of British universities and end up studying "red letters" in the Soviet Union. Lord Boyle of Handsworth, Vice-Chancellor of Leeds University, said yesterday (the Press Association reports).

That could come about because of government proposals to increase overseas student fees, an idea said it would be "a lasting loss, both political and educational, to this country."

He said that all over the world there were men and

women, often in positions of seniority and influence, who had an understanding of the United Kingdom because they were educated in this country.

"If future generations of students find themselves priced out of our universities they will go elsewhere. They may go to North America or other English-speaking countries or to the Soviet Union."

The fees charged in Britain to overseas students would be far in excess of those charged in other countries, he said, adding: "I simply cannot see how British universities can hope to go on competing on the proposed terms, and the consequences may well prove to be not only profoundly regrettable but also irreversible."

Big rise in unemployment among youth may mean a demand for £22m aid

By Mark Jackson
The Times Educational Supplement

New official forecasts of youth unemployment next year will face the Government with the need for its first Unirun public spending since the White Paper on the subject.

The forecasts, which are published in full in *The Times Educational Supplement* today, have been prepared by Manpower Services Commission economists from the total unemployment projections of the London Business School.

They show school-leaver unemployment growing next year and a total of more than 400,000 young people under 19 out of work in January, 1981.

The commission's figures are a "policy off" that is, they include those temporarily in government programmes for workless, unlike the published Department of Employment statistics, which show only those who are on the unemployment register at the time.

Unemployment among young people is usually approaching its annual low in January, by which time most school-leavers have found jobs.

The forecasts say that the true figure for leaver unemployment was 52,000 last January and will rise to 172,000 by January, 1981, and to 214,000 in the next 12 months.

Unemployment among people under 19 as a whole will rise, they say, from last January's 254,000 to 418,000 in 1981, above the record winter of 1977, and reach 478,000 at the start of 1982.

By 1982, they add, there will

be nearly three times as many young people in the 15 to 18 age group as in the 15 to 18 age group of more than three months.

The forecasts will be put before the Manpower Services Commission at its monthly meeting in Sheffield next week, together with a proposal to expand the Youth Opportunities Programme, which provides courses and work experience for school-leavers aged 15 to 19.

The commissioners will be told by their officials, in a report intended for submission to ministers, that the programme needs to provide another one-fifth to a quarter more places if under-19s to the young unemployed which have been endorsed by the Government are to be met.

The officials say that the cost of the additional places will be £22m, almost as much as the cut imposed in the White Paper on the existing programme's planned expenditure.

There is no prospect of finding the money within the trimmed budget without damaging its quality, the commission says, and suggests that the £22m will have to come from the Government's contingency fund.

The officials say that the projections of youth unemployment cannot be taken as precise forecasts, and that their proposals are based not on these figures, but a "very cautious" estimate, which reflects the Government's own assumptions about unemployment generally and makes no allowance for the fact that youth unemployment generally rises faster.

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Rate support grant upset averted

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The chairman's casting vote yesterday saved the Association of Local Authorities from passing a highly embarrassing resolution rejecting the Government's recently announced rate support grant settlement.

The resolution was proposed by Mr Jack Smart, leader of the Labour opposition on the Conservative-controlled association, which represents councils in Greater London and the main contributions to England.

The vote was 37-37, with one Labour and two Conservative authorities absent, so Mr A. G. Taylor, chairman, used his casting vote to defeat the resolution.

Control of the association has been on a knife-edge since the last local government elections, and subsequent local changes reduced the Conservative majority to one.

Last week the association described the rate support grant settlement as "basically fair and just to authorities and rate-payers alike." The Government certainly expects the three main local authority associations, all of which are Conservative-controlled, to support its policies without much complaint.

Mr Taylor told yesterday's meeting that local government should produce cost-effective services that were right for those receiving them and right for those paying for them. The problems are great, but by over-

stressing them we are doing ourselves a disservice."

A document prepared by Mr Tom Caulcott, the association's secretary, indicated that to keep to the Government's guidelines of a 13 per cent rate of inflation rate over the next year, pay settlements in local government would have to be restricted to 9 per cent.

That figure was in addition to comparable awards to various groups of local authority staff. Mr Smart, a trade union official, said that unions wanted to make reasonable claims aimed at maintaining their members' living standards. Inflation could soon be up to 20 per cent, and he could not deliver a settle-

ment based on a 9 per cent increase which, in fact, would be a reduction in wages of 11 per cent.

recommending that in

terested parties should form a liaison committee to monitor the local. He urged consulting organizations.

The two rivers will be protected from their source to the sea, and trout fishing will be allowed only if the fisherman has a permit from the riparian owner.

The object of the order is to control the free-for-all which existed on the two rivers during the trout fishing season. The public inquiry report calculated that the river Tweed alone could accommodate some 3,000 fishermen at eight anglers a mile, provided the anglers and owners cooperated.

Mr H. Leggett, secretary of

Heritage in Danger, called the measure "a brilliant and far-sighted initiative" by Mr Urm St. John-Stevens, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and minister responsible for the arts. It would act as a spring-serve Britain's cultural inheritance, he said.

Next April the National Land Fund will be wound up and the new fund established to preserve the houses and works of art. The

the Chinese work when they went to buy something they like. He said that three representatives of China's main television network spent a day earlier this month viewing a selection of programmes at BBC's headquarters, over Ealing Broadway Underground station.

A week later a message from Peking said they had chosen those based on the classic by Tolstoy, Charles Dickens and David Copperfield.

Although "absolutely thrilled" and saying "We have put a lot of work into this," the spokesman for BBC said the programme would be drawn on how much the Chinese have said. "We are well satisfied" was all he would say.

The Chinese will have a total of 18 hours' viewing. Ann Karenina runs for ten programmes of 50 minutes each which British audiences saw two years ago.

"David Copperfield," which has six 50-minute programmes was screened on television five years ago.

Robinson Crusoe was shown in a single "Play for Today" in 1974.

Bigger lorry call by industry

By Michael Bailey
Transport Correspondent

The Government is coming under renewed pressure from industry to raise lorry weights from 22 to 40 tonnes without waiting for a decision by the EEC.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Transport Minister, is maintaining a non-committal attitude to the issue, pending the report of Sir Arthur Armitage into lorries and the environment, expected about the middle of next year.

In its evidence to the Armitage committee published today, industry's leading voice on transport, the Freight Transport Association, says that because of conflicting political and commercial interests, the number of lorries on the roads cannot be expected for some time.

Meanwhile Britain will continue to suffer a considerable commercial disadvantage through having the smallest load-carriers in Europe, 32 tonnes, compared with France and Germany 38, Belgium and Luxembourg 40, Denmark and Italy 44, the Netherlands 50, and Sweden 51.4.

As an interim step towards the 44-tonne, six-axle draft proposal which was recently advanced by the Brussels Commission, the FTA proposes a 40-tonne, five-axle maximum.

That, it argues, would give a 10 per cent cost saving and an 8 per cent weight saving over the present 32 tonne limit without increasing either the maximum size of lorries on British roads or environmental damage.

It concludes that in some circumstances a lower maximum may cause more road damage than a 32-tonner. That is more than cancelled out by the reduction in the total number of lorries needed.

A combination of the two factors means less, not more road damage, FTA says, quoting studies by the Government's Transport and Road Research Laboratory.

Because damage to roads, bridges and buildings, is a function of axle-load rather than overall weight, the lorry they propose would be less damaging, with proper weight distribution and taking into account the lower lorries needed, the FTA says.

They could also be safer because they would be subject to the same safety regulations as the 32-tonner. They would pay for design improvements.

Sir Arthur Armitage, aged 62, is Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Common Law at Manchester University. He is chairman of the inquiry and is aided by four assessors.

Flat fire kills two children

Yard officer visits sites of 4 killings

From Our Correspondent
Leeds

Commander James Nevill, former head of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad, was yesterday to the scenes of four of the "Ripper" murders. He toured the places in Leeds where the bodies of Wilma MacCann, Emily Jackson, Jayne Macdonald and Irene Richardson were found.

Mr Nevill and Supt Joseph Bolton, of Scotland Yard, were asked to join the hunt for the killer last week by Mr Ronald Gregory, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire.

When the officers arrived at the playground where the body of the Ripper's youngest victim, 16-year-old Wilma MacCann, was found in June, 1977, Mr Nevill said: "I am familiarizing myself with the murder scenes."

The adventure playground behind a back street off Chapel-own Road has been transformed since the girl became the Ripper's sixth victim. A row of terrace houses overlooking the site has been demolished.

The detectives later visited the Prince Philip centre playing fields, where the body of the Ripper's seventh victim, 16-year-old Jayne Macdonald, was found in October, 1975. Then they went to Manor Street, in the Sheepshead district, where Emily Jackson's body was found, and to Soldier's Field, Roundabout, where the body of Irene Richardson was found.

Maternity grant now 'less than in 1911'

Of the countries in Europe, only Ireland has a lower maternity grant than Britain and even some Third World countries such as the Ivory Coast pay more, a report from the National Maternity Grant Campaign, published yesterday.

British mothers get £25, against grants of more than £200 in France, Belgium and Luxembourg. The study shows that the grant is worth less in real terms than the £1.50 paid to mothers when the grant was introduced in 1911.

A minimum of £85 should be

paid to pregnant women, regardless of whether they have paid the correct number of National Insurance contributions, the report states. That would have cost the country an additional £9,520,000 in the year ended March 1978.

It suggests the introduction of a prenatal allowance, as paid in France, which at the child benefit rate of £4 a week, would have cost about £102,360,000 over the same period.

Together the cost of both reforms amounts to less than 0.8 per cent of what the country

spends annually on alcoholic drink, tobacco and gambling," it says.

There seems to be no link between the economic circumstances of a country and the generosity of its grant. Britain simply lags behind Europe in its social security provisions for mothers and children without a tradition of commitment to their needs.

Mothers and Babies First? by Ian Kendall (National Maternity Grant Campaign, Kentish Town Road, London, NW5, 50p).

Parents and children in protest

By Ian Bradley

About 600 parents and children from Highbury Grove and Highbury Hill schools, in Islington, north London, marched through central London yesterday to present a petition to Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, asking him to reject proposals for the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) for the closure of the two schools.

The proposals are for the merger of Highbury Grove, a single-sex school, with Sir Philip Magnus School, a girls' school, with Shelburne School.

Highbury Grove school, of which Mr Rhodes Boyson, an Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Education, was headmaster from 1967 to 1974, has a firm commitment to traditional methods of learning and discipline. It believes in streaming its pupils and in corporal punishment.

It also has a good record of academic achievement. Last summer it obtained 220 higher grade (A to C) O level passes and 40 A level passes. By contrast, Islington Green, a mixed school, obtained only 12 higher grade O level passes and just two A level passes.

Mr L. J. Norcross, Headmaster of Highbury Grove, said: "We are afraid that the merger will change the character of our school."

"Our intake at present at 240 pupils is smaller than that of Sir Philip Magnus School 90 pupils a year. Yet the proposals are for the new amalgamated school to take only 90 pupils a year."

"There is a certain element in County Hall which has always disapproved of the kind of school we are and feel that we are an impediment to the kind of educational progress they want to see."

The ILEA said yesterday that the proposals were made because the number of pupils under 11 in the borough would fall by 46 per cent between 1978 and 1986.

A pat on the back was given yesterday to Mrs Margaret Thatcher for her leadership of the country.

The praise came from Miss Pamela Stringer, president of the Girls' Schools Association, who said: "She obviously senses a national will to pull back from the edge of Lemming's Leap."

"We and the young desperately need a new set of standards which will define for us a class of people whom we can admire and whose skills we can wholeheartedly attempt to emulate."

Miss Stringer said that she was not advocating a general issue to young people of race coloured spectacles.

Fewer accidents but farm deaths double

Mentally disordered 'live in appalling conditions'

allegedly died there.

"Dangerous and overcrowded conditions" had persisted at the Zambesi when Roof visited it last month, despite 37 inspections by Birmingham City Council this year alone.

The report, in Shelter's housing magazine, Roof, says that the council had failed to use its statutory powers to bring hostels up to standard, brooking plans of voluntary agencies to provide hostels and had pursued a "contradictory attitude of laissez faire towards towards lodging house slums."

The question of hostel provision is due to be raised in the Commons today with the debate on second reading of the Private Members' Bill, the Housing (Houses in Multiple Occupation) Bill, introduced by Mr Joseph Best, Labour member for Leeds, West.

There were also increases in fatal accidents in the manufacturing and service industries.

Accidents reported to the Health and Safety Executive in the first half of this year dropped to 164,130, against 170,979 in the same period of 1978. But fatal accidents increased slightly from 307 to 316. Most of this increase happened in agriculture, where the number of deaths doubled to 34.

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£20m extra subsidy to help the hill farmers

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Hill farming subsidies are to rise by up to half at an extra cost next year of £20m, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday. As the owner of a sheep farm in Shropshire, Mr Walker will be one of 53,000 farmers who will benefit.

The increases represent a substantial expression of our belief that the hill and upland farmers should enjoy a reasonable standard of living," he said. The new rates will apply to almost nine million animals and will cost a total of £75m next year, of which three-quarters will be paid by the Government and a quarter by the EEC.

The maximum payment for a sheep will rise from £3.60 to £5.50 and the rate for cows will go from £29 to £35. Mr Walker said that hill farmers had suffered badly in the hard winter, early this year and that autumn prices for stock for fattening had been low.

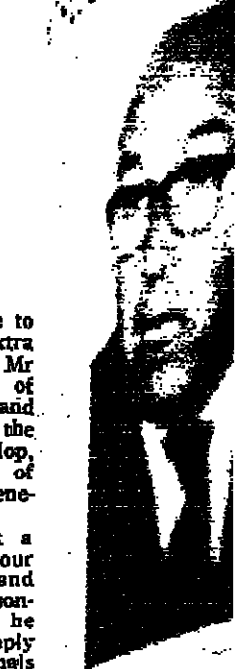
He predicted "a substantial year" for this important sector of farming. His statement was welcomed by the National Farmers' Union, but will encourage French farmers to intensify their production in farming and to export lamb from Britain. One of their main complaints is that British sheep farmers receive large Government subsidies.

The size of the increases shows that the Government has decided to exempt farming from its programme of spending cuts. Ministers are submitting a long list of projects in farming and fisheries for aid from the EEC under a Community rule of 1967.

Two projects have been approved in Scotland and ministers have asked the aid towards building factories in England and Wales to extract juice from surplus apples. Eight projects are being put forward.

Appeal for aid: Government ministers are expected to protect the wildlife habitats from the impact of modern farming methods. Professor Norman Moore, chief advisory officer of the Nature Conservancy Council, said yesterday:

"The Government spent £540m a year on agricultural improvement and £7m on conservation, he told a conference at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire. An imbalance of this proportion could lead to the destruction of wildlife heritage," he added, "and in net farm incomes this



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OVERSEAS

Salisbury starts to free prisoners but forbids political activity until expiry of their sentences

From Nicholas Ashford, Salisbury, Nov 22.

Bishop Abel Muzorewa's government began releasing political prisoners and detainees today after deciding to free them before the expiry of their sentences.

Among the first batch to be released were 32 supporters of Joshua Nkomo's Zanu organization serving sentences in Salisbury's Chikurusi prison. They said they were released on condition they did not participate in political activities during the period that their sentences should have run.

One man was barred from political activity until 1991, according to Mr Cephas Msiya, senior Zanu official.

An announcement that political offenders were being released was made by Bishop Muzorewa at a press conference today. He said that by the time the releases were complete there would be only a few political offenders left in jail apart from those to be released after conviction for crimes of violence.

Zimbabwe Rhodesia would be a proud record where political detainees and prisoners were concerned with other African countries, he said.

According to official sources 77 political prisoners will be released in terms of the amnesty announced by Bishop Muzorewa today. Since the shop came to power in June, other prisoners convicted of offences under the country's security legislation have been released.

Most of those now being released were found guilty of aiding and abetting "terrorists" attempting to go abroad for military training.

About 70 political detainees without trial under the agency regulations are also being released over the next few days. Others are expected to be set free later. At present, being held at Witsie Wharton centre near Gwelo.

However, there is to be no amnesty for the huge numbers of people who are being held in detention in Army camps and makeshift detention centres and the country under the military laws.

The Government has not said

how many of these detainees there are, but they are believed to total about 18,000. It is hoped these detainees will be freed if the British Governor repeals the martial law regulations when he takes up office in Salisbury.

While the decision to release political offenders has generally been welcomed by Zimbabwe Rhodesia, some believe the Government has acted primarily to win black support in the election to be held next year once the present Lancaster House peace talks in London have reached a successful conclusion. "It is just a vote-catching gimmick," Mr Msiya said.

Bishop Muzorewa said he had not decided whether to remove the ban on Zanu or Zapu, the



Bishop Muzorewa: Undecided on whether to legalize Mugabe and Nkomo parties.

Lee demand for sanctions against Vietnamese

From Peter Hazelhurst, Singapore, Nov 22.

Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister of Singapore, today called on Western Europe, Japan and the United States to impose economic sanctions against Vietnam until Hanoi withdraws its armed forces from Kampuchea.

Hinting that the fighting along the border of Kampuchea has developed into the greatest threat to the stability of the non-communist Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) since its inception, Mr Lee also called on the United Nations to send more observers to the Thai frontier.

Setting out his views on Kampuchea in an interview with The Times today, Mr Lee went on to accuse Vietnam and the Soviet Union of attempting to annihilate the Kampuchean people.

"I fear for the Kampuchean people as a race. I think they will be destroyed," he said.

He said the conflict between the Khmer Rouge and Vietnamese troops near the border of Thailand could endanger the stability of the front-line Asean state.

"The immediate danger is that Vietnam will violate Thailand's territory by shelling and bombing, and by sending troops into Thailand pursuing Kampuchean irregulars who, in turn, are shifting into Thailand, mingling between genuine refugees."

"The long-term danger is that if, after a blatant act of aggression, Vietnam can still win world-wide recognition for a puppet regime by presenting the world with what it vehemently keeps repeating as an 'irreversible' fact, then the future holds ill for peace and stability in all of South-East Asia," Mr Lee said.

He added that Asean believes the crisis can only be resolved if Vietnamese troops withdraw from Kampuchea and the Kampuchean people are permitted to elect their own government under the supervision of the United Nations.

"Japan, the United States and Europe can help a return to peaceful and stable conditions in the region by not giving Vietnam political support, or economic succour she badly needs. He believed that Moscow may not be much more suc-



Thousands of Kampuchean refugees head for lorries and buses waiting to take them to a new refugee camp in Thailand eight miles from the frontier. It will take up to 200,000 people.

"Vietnam is politically isolated and economically deprived. She needs trade and economic cooperation with the Western industrial nations and with her neighbours in South-East Asia to repair the ravages of war and to build a better life for her people."

She must, however, first observe the minimum decencies of civilized conduct between peaceful nations.

Mr Lee pointed out that the presence of United Nations observers on the Thai frontier can inhibit Vietnamese violations of Thai territory. "They would bear witness to Vietnam's extension of war into Thailand."

Mr Lee claimed that the conflict in Kampuchea is essentially part of the Soviet Union's attempts to extend its influence in South-East Asia.

In a biting analysis of Moscow's policy in Asia, Mr Lee said the Soviet Union had, in the past, failed miserably to gain a real foothold in the area.

"In Vietnam's ambitions in Kampuchea, and in her inevitable conflict with China, the Soviet Union grasped the opportunity to extend her influence into Vietnam which can help project her military capacity into South-East Asia."

"The price is military hardware and political support. The casualties and sufferings will be borne by Vietnamese, Kampuchean and Chinese. The advantages are considerable: friendly harbours and air bases which will multiply the sea days of naval vessels and the effective reach of her reconnaissance and other aircraft."

India which voted with the Soviet Union against the recent United Nations resolution calling for the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea.

Pointing out that Soviet policies failed in Indonesia, Mr Lee said India in the long run, although, for the present, Soviet animosity and Indian

anxiety find a conjunction in China.

"When China took it upon herself to punish Vietnam by invading her last February, India interpreted the invasion in the light of her experience when Chinese troops crossed the Himalayas into India."

But, whatever her reasons, India's support for Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea is not adding lustre to India's stature as a principled non-aligned leader of the third world.

Mr Lee and other leaders of Asean are strongly opposed to moves in the West calling for the recognition of the Vietnamese installed Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh on the grounds that recognition will speed up aid to the people.

Putting the Asean case, Mr Lee asked: "How does it guarantee that the food gets through to the Cambodians and not those Cambodians who Heng Samrin and his Vietnamese backers consider worthy of survival?"

Ceausescu cult reaches new heights

From Gisa Trevisan, Bucharest, Nov 22.

The first message to emerge from the Romanian Party Congress is that Romania is as resolute as ever to guard its independence and to extend it by keeping an active foreign policy, clearly distinguishable and often in outright disagreement with the Warsaw Pact line.

The second message is that high-pressure industrialization will be pursued regardless of the energy crisis and strains strains and stresses in the international economic scene. This means rapid economic growth, high industrial investment at the expense of the consumer, tight discipline, tight police controls.

The third message is that President Ceausescu is an absolute ruler, the personification of the country, the nation and its party. Romania is deemed to owe everything to him, the cult has risen to great heights.

There is nothing new in that, except that this point is now being driven home even more forcefully: that the tributes are more lavish and elaborate, that the ovarians are more frenzied, and that all this makes this congress more than ever a one-man show.

Demand for his reelection to the post of general secretary which every speaker reiterated as if there was the slightest doubt who was likely to get the job, brought the audience of almost 3,000 faithful into a frenzy that no living leader, with the possible exception of Kim Il Sung, of North Korea, can match.

The show might have been boring and most of the audience might have had difficulties in keeping awake, but the never missed their cue to cheer the man who was running it.

If the portraits adorning public buildings look rather modest, and, in keeping with the economy drive, may have been cut down in numbers and size, the image of Mr Ceausescu emerging from the congress looks king-size.

The cult of personality has obviously gathered new momentum from the congress. What it might lead to remains to be seen, but before embarking on the next five-year stage, it was obviously necessary to demonstrate it beyond doubt.

The ambitious targets this congress is about to launch call for a thorough reorganization. It is being suggested that M Ceausescu's wife, Elena, the formidable power behind Romanian politics, might rise still higher in the party hierarchy. The assumption is that she may provide that trustworthy partner President Ceausescu needs.

The suggestion is that the post of deputy to the general secretary might be created for her. Another is for her to be made party secretary in charge of the cadres.

Of the two, the latter seems more plausible, especially as the member bureau which has 11 members, and of the executive bureau, with 41, is to be increased. In order to turn Romania into an industrially advanced country, heavy industry is to be reorganized from top to bottom.

Net industrial production is to rise at an annual rate of 9 per cent to 10 per cent, agricultural production by more than 4 per cent, and investment by more than 5 per cent by 1985, according to this programme. Romania is to become a medium-advanced industrial power. Any real improvement in the living standards is to come after that.

For the 22 million Romanians this means more sweat and not much else. Moreover Romania has worked out a comprehensive 10-year energy programme designed to make it self-sufficient. This calls for enormous additional investment into energy resources, and means that the promise, a heavy-weight, is in fact to be postponed until then.

British flag pulled down by Lusaka protesters

Lusaka, Nov 22.—More than 50 people demonstrated outside the British High Commission in Lusaka today in support of President Kaunda's decision to mobilize his armed forces against the Rhodesian army of mercenaries attacking Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

About 50 demonstrators shed the flag and lowered the British flag inside the house, but diplomats said the damage was done. The demonstrators left after about an hour.

President Kaunda has been piling up anti-British feeling saying he held Britain responsible for Zimbabwe Rhodesia's raids into Zambia over the year.

Zambian police on duty inside and outside the High Commission grounds kept the riot under control and military police with auto weapons waited nearby did not intervene.

President Kaunda told about

6,000 people gathered at State House today that he expected no improvement in Zambia's relations with Britain until the Zimbabwe Rhodesia issue had been settled.

Referring to the recent attacks on Zambian bridges the President asked whether the crowd could accept that the raids were made without the knowledge of the British Government. He was answered by a roared "No".

The President also attacked Sir Leonard Allison, the British High Commissioner to Zambia, for saying that the British Government was not responsible for the Zimbabwe Rhodesian raids and would therefore not compensate Zambia for its losses, as Dr Kaunda has demanded.

He rejected calls from militants to nationalize Shell-BP Zambia and Lombe, saying that there was no point in nationalizing such companies until Zambia had people trained to run them.

Australians to speed up end of sanctions

Canberra, Nov 22.—Australia and New Zealand will trade sanctions against Zimbabwe Rhodesia without waiting for action in the United Nations, in the event of a settlement at the London talks, the two countries announced today.

Mr Andrew Peacock, the Foreign Minister, said Australia would lift sanctions as soon as the peace talks reached agreement. It would also send 135 men to join a Commonwealth force monitoring the ceasefire during the planned transitional period leading up to elections.

In Wellington, Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, said New Zealand would lift sanctions when Britain did.

Commenting on the Australian announcement, Mr Muldoon said that if agreement was reached at the London talks Britain would appoint a governor in the breakaway colony, proclaim that it had returned to legality and end sanctions. New Zealand would follow suit.

Chemical warfare used on Kampuchean, Thais say

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok, Nov 22.

The International Committee of the Red Cross in Bangkok is trying to identify a powder which caused illness among Kampuchean refugees. The powder was dropped by an unidentified helicopter earlier this month.

The Thai supreme command said today that 70 refugees had become ill with vomiting and diarrhoea after drinking water, contaminated by the powder, from a stream at Ban Laem 200 miles east of Bangkok. The stream marks the Thai-Kampuchean border.

While Thai officials declined publicly to name those responsible, military officers described the incident as a deliberate act of chemical warfare by the Vietnamese whose forces are just across the border from Ban Laem.

Dr Theonun Thionun, who was health minister in the ousted Pol Pot government, said during an interview inside Kampuchea last month that Vietnamese aircraft had repeatedly dropped arsenic in Khmer Rouge war supplies in western Kampuchea.

The doctor said the Vietnamese had also dropped a poison gas which he had not been able to identify. People inhaling it died unless given immediate injections of atropine or ammonia.

Laotians have reported Vietnamese gas attacks over the past two years and claimed

some of their people had been killed. A French doctor in northern Thailand, who examined Laotians affected by the gas said it resembled poison gas used in Flanders during the First World War.

Eight executions: The Vietnamese backed administration in Phnom Penh said today it had discovered documents showing that the ousted Pol Pot regime had executed two Australian and six American servicemen arrested off the Kampuchean coast.

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some of their people had been killed. A French doctor in northern Thailand, who examined Laotians affected by the gas said it resembled poison gas used in Flanders during the First World War.

Fifth Cruise missile crashes

Salt Lake City, Utah, Nov 22.—A Cruise missile crashed into the Utah desert during a test flight last night, a United States Defence Department spokesman said.

Five of 11 Cruise missiles tested have crashed since they began in July but this is not an abnormal crash rate, the spokesman said.

Court declines to release mayor of West Bank town

From Moshe Brilliant, Jerusalem, Nov 22.

The Supreme Court of Israel today declined to order the release of Mr Bassam Shakra, the mayor of Nablus, or to hear the appeal against the Government's decision to banish him to Lebanon.

A panel of three judges said the mayor must first appeal to a military advisory committee and the court could take up the case only if he lost his appeal there.

hunger strike in prison, looked fit as he took his place in the dock. Dressed in a leather jacket, he raised his arms in response to a round of applause from the visitors' gallery.

Mrs Langer, in a preliminary argument, claimed that the measure under which the banishment order had been issued—article 112 of the emergency regulations of 1945 which was enacted by the British authorities in Palestine and retained by the Jordanian Government—was null and void because it conflicted with article 49 of the Geneva convention forbidding expulsions from occupied areas.

"If a domestic regulation contravenes the Geneva convention," she argued, "the convention prevails." The court rejected the argument.

Mrs Langer asked the court to order the release of Mr Shakra who was detained on November 13 in preparation for his expulsion which has been held up by a temporary injunction. The judges said the law did not empower them to free him.

In the Knesset this week, Mr Ezer Weizman, the Defence Minister, said that Mr Shakra, an avowed supporter of the PLO, was being deported because he was likely to inflame passions and disrupt law and order.

Priest says over 100 Jesuits living in China

From John Earle, Rome, Nov 22.

A recent visit to China by Father Michel Chu, Li-tai, adviser of Chinese problems to the Society of Jesus, has shown that just over a hundred Chinese Jesuits are living there today.

A statement by the order here said that Father Chu paid his first visit for 30 years to the China, where he was born, from June 29 to September 6. He saw his family and met some Jesuits, most of whom were living in labour camps. A number of them had recently received permission to spend several weeks a year with their families.

Father Chu gathered news about members of the old Jesuit missions of Shanghai and Yangchow, but little information about those from the other eight missions in China.

Father Chu, who also met other Roman Catholic clergy and laymen, "was able to observe the strength and vitality of their faith, their attachment to the Church and the Holy Father, although for many years there has been no free sacramental life for Chinese Catholics."

These "do not feel themselves to be represented by the Patriotic Church, the only church visible to foreign visitors."

Mr Murdoch withdraws bid for newspapers

From Douglas Aizon, Melbourne, Nov 22.

Rupert Murdoch has withdrawn his bid to gain control of Herald and Weekly Times Ltd, the Melbourne-based paper organization in the fern hemisphere.

He announced in Sydney that his group, News Ltd, sold all its shares in Herald and Weekly Times, and his takeover bid was over. We sold all the shares for \$52 (£2.90). There were 20,000 of them," Mr Murdoch said. The parcel had realized about 9.3m (£10.2m).

An announcement was the ax in an intense day on trading floor of the Melbourne Stock Exchange. Old shares opened at \$45, at up to \$45.52, and then

fell back to \$42.75. By the close \$42.248 Herald shares Murdoch. He does tend to die hard, changed hands and in Sydney two million were traded.

Notification of Mr Murdoch's withdrawal came to the Melbourne Stock Exchange from a copy of a telex message to the Trade Practices Commission, a Government body that had warned Mr Murdoch not to buy Herald shares for at least a month.

Mr Murdoch said later: "We're disappointed, but no responsible officer of a public company could pay these prices."

Asked whether his bid to take over the Herald group was finished to fall, Mr Murdoch said, "I can't answer that." He then confirmed that

he was considering starting an afternoon newspaper in Melbourne.

Mr Murdoch's failure seems largely to have stemmed from a takeover and saying they would not sell.

Announcement of the Murdoch withdrawal came after the first edition of The Herald in Melbourne, which carried a front-page leading article on the takeover attempt and reminding readers that in 1977 Mr Murdoch had been quoted as saying: "I think it would be a pity if I grew any bigger in Australia. There are now basically three groups in Australia and that's too few already."

"If I were to grow bigger and take over one of the other groups, or be taken over, that would be against the public interest. I would like there to

be six groups. The fewer there are, the worse it is."

The article went on to say: "That is the trouble with Mr Murdoch's principles for today's opportunities." In the large shareholders in the Herald objected to the Murdoch withdrawal came after the first edition of The Herald in Melbourne, which carried a front-page leading article on the takeover attempt and reminding readers that in 1977 Mr Murdoch had been quoted as saying: "I think it would be a pity if I grew any bigger in Australia. There are now basically three groups in Australia and that's too few already."

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Seoul opposition demands new constitution

Seoul, Nov 22.—South Korea's main opposition party threatened today to campaign against early next month unless the Government agrees to revise the constitution.

Mr Kim Young Sam, head of the New Democratic Party, accused Mr Choi Kyu Hah, the Acting President, of "forcing obedience from the people under the pretext of assuring stability."

Mr Choi, the Prime Minister, became Acting President after the assassination of Park Chung Hee last month, under the rigorous 1972 constitution which abolished a popular vote for electing presidents.

Mr Kim told a press conference that a new organization would be set up to revise the constitution. He said it should include political, religious, and social groups as well as two

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Press controls held in Thailand

Our Correspondent Bangkok, Nov 22.

Attempts by MPs to give a freedom to Thai news failed yesterday. A parliamentary committee rejected two Bills that would have ended Government attempts to close newspapers speaking about freedom of press to the Press Foundation of Asia yesterday. General Chuan Leekpai, the Prime Minister, said: "My government has tried as best as it can to maintain a proper balance between several values—freedom, stability, national security, freedom of speech and publication and the well-being."

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Forget Winter Come to Sicily

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PARLIAMENT, November 22, 1979

Search for acceptable way of transferring power in N Ireland

House of Commons

The Government was determined to seek ways of transferring power to elected representatives in Northern Ireland. Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said at question time.

He said that he had not yet received any formal letter of reply to his invitation to Ulster political parties to attend his conference on the reform of local government. He said that he was aware that the Ulster Unionist Party, the Democratic Unionist Party, the SDLP and the Alliance Party.

Mr Atkins (Bromsgrove and Edithclay, C)—As all these parties expressed an interest in a greater measure of self-government during the election, he was determined to discuss, such as the role of agriculture, commerce and industry, and therefore the parties would be invited to attend the conference for that purpose.

Mr Atkins—The Government's policy is to seek acceptable ways of transferring power to locally elected representatives in Northern Ireland. It is a great mass of detail to be discussed and a great many matters which need to be worked out between the parties.

I believe that a conference at which all the parties could sit down together would be the best way to make progress.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hallam, Lab)—Could I place on record how much I am pleased that Mr Fitt has been able to leave the leadership of his party?

Does he think that any real progress will be made at this conference? Which parties does he think will not come?

Mr Atkins—I endorse what he said about Mr Fitt whom we have all known for many years. He has a great deal to offer to the party and it is necessary to resign from the leadership of the party which he founded.

I cannot give him any firm information about who will attend. I have had no formal replies. Mr Ivor Starbuck (Bromley, Orpington, C)—Mr Atkins had made an honourable and praiseworthy attempt to achieve the impossible, to get the parties to agree to a solution to this problem.

It appears this attempt will be unsuccessful, ought not the Government to be considering its own solution to the problem, as announced in the manifesto?

Mr Atkins—The Government is determined to seek ways of transferring power to the elected representatives in Northern Ireland. The right course to take is to discuss with the parties who are willing to discuss with the Government. It is the best way to make progress.

We shall not lose sight of our objective.

Mr Gerard Fitt (Belfast, West)—The overwhelming majority of people of all religions and cultures in Northern Ireland want to see political advance. They have given no instructions to their leaders to boycott this conference. They desperately want their leaders to attend.

The document drawn up for consultation could have been more diplomatically worded to assure people of the minority population that their aspirations were not being totally excluded from any of the discussions about to take place.

Section A—Five Five follows.

All the parties to the conference are prepared to give an indication to the minority population through their leaders in the SDLP, he may still find them at the conference table.

Mr Atkins—I take heart from that. I recognize the aspirations of the minority community. As for the internal government of Northern Ireland, the Government is determined to ensure that their interests are taken care of.

People talk about an Irish dimension. It means some things to some people and other things to other people. Of course there is an Irish dimension to this problem, but it is not how two communities living on the same island can help each other.

One example to which I attach particular importance is the question of energy and electricity where they could help each other. The question of reconciling the electricity grids is under discussion with Dublin.

An elected representative body

being considered and a statement would be made in due course.

in time of war or other public emergency threatening the life of the nation the Queen by Order in Council may make such regulations as he thinks fit for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the Protection of Human Rights Bill.

Lord Wade (L), moving it, said that under Article 13 of the Convention there was a power of derogation but he had been told by distinguished lawyers that it was not such as to constitute an emergency and a considerable amount of time might be taken up, which would defeat the object of the Bill.

The committee stage was concluded.

Lord Elwyn-Jones (Lab) said the Lord Chancellor's proposals, which were very tentative, were also

EEC states yet to grasp radical nature of steps needed to reduce UK share of budget

There were some signs that the United Kingdom's efforts to bring home to her EEC partners the seriousness and urgency of the problem of her share of the Community budget had been to bear fruit. Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said in opening a debate on the European Communities budget and the United Kingdom's contribution towards it.

Sir Geoffrey Howe (East Surrey, C) said he had heard no argument which justified the position under which the United Kingdom was transferring substantial resources to richer member states through the EEC budget. He said that the country's seventh in order of gross national product would be by far and away the largest contributor to the budget in 1980.

The draft budget, as amended, was established by the Council of Ministers and subsequently referred to the European Parliament. All the proposals made by the Parliament would be a considerable extension of the budget by nearly 10 per cent from £1,000 million to £1,100 million.

The Finance Secretary (Mr Nigel Lawson) would be discussing the proposals made by the Treasury in the House of Commons tomorrow (Friday). He would again convey the Government's general attitude to the House of Commons in the House of Commons tomorrow (Friday).

The Government's pressing and more substantial question was that of the United Kingdom's share of the budget. It was not possible to increase the contributions to the budget by nearly 10 per cent from £1,000 million to £1,100 million.

Mr Atkins—I will consider any suggestion to put to me. I do not think I am in a position to answer hypothetical questions about what to do if certain things are agreed. It is the Government's right that the people at the conference should be the leaders of the main political parties in Northern Ireland.

It is regrettable that Mr Fitt is no longer the leader of a political party. He was the leader of the party of which he was until recently the leader. It is a pity that the party of which he was until recently the leader is still a potent force in the land.

The Rev Robert Bradford (Belfast, South, UUP) said that the political developments in Northern Ireland, the proposed conference is rather futile. When will he bring to the conference the representatives of local government in Northern Ireland and for a devoted parliament?

Mr Atkins—I do not think it is fair to say that it is transpiring nobody comes, the Government will find another way forward. The Government is determined to find a way forward to the people of Northern Ireland—they were the ones who wanted it.

Mr James Kilfeather (North Down, UUP) said that he was not sure if the Ulster people are at this conference. He said that the Government was determined to find a way forward to the people of Northern Ireland—they were the ones who wanted it.

Mr Atkins—I do not know of such an official answer to my invitation. But it is in the interests of the SDLP, as much as those of everyone else in the Province, that they should come to talk under my chairmanship and discuss how better we can govern the Province.

Mr Atkins—That is obviously one of the things that the Government is determined to find a way forward and come to the House with recommendations. It is my earnest wish to come to the House knowing that what I recommend has the support of the people of the Province.

During later questions, Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L) asked—On the apparent refusal of the SDLP to take the talks, could the good offices of the Prime Minister of the Republic be used to encourage them to do so? (Some laughter.)

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ready in 1979 it had been a major factor in eliminating the invisible surplus of the United Kingdom had enjoyed for 30 years.

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Too many people are wanting to borrow

Mr Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, said that the Government was not intervening on this occasion with the building societies to keep down their rates as she did last year. As the Conservative Party's spokesman told her, he was amazed at the Government's plans would enable them to lower interest rates, could she tell us what was wrong with her financial policy?

Mr Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C)—Exchange rates are high because too many people are wanting to borrow. (Loud Labour laughter.) In Labour days did not realise that they will never get their accounts right.

I recognize that the Government is borrowing too much and the increasing contribution is that when Government borrow less as the last Government did, under the instructions of the IMF and the borrowing requirement went down, the interest rates went down.

Mr Callaghan—I do not think she has answered my question. Her manifesto said they would only get down interest rates because their tax cuts would help, and that would be the only way to raise the deposit for a mortgage.

Would she agree to circulate the Government's borrowing requirement manifesto and explain to the people that she was coming them in the general election? (Loud Labour laughter.)

Mr Thatcher—I did answer his question. It was just that he did not like my answer. The other side of the coin is that when we borrow less, the interest rates go down.

Mr Callaghan—Why does she not just state that her policy is a disaster? (Loud Labour laughter.)

Mr Thatcher—Because it is not. (Labour laughter and Conservative cheers.)

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, said that the building societies are meeting today, what answer will she give them if they say that they are not getting their accounts right?

Mr Thatcher—We fought the previous election on that one and lost it, and it was not in the manifesto last time.

Mr Steel—Why are we not now intervening by leading the building societies to keep it down, that would only be a political question, the beginning of the financial year in order that the money could be returned before the end of the financial year.

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Miners' pay negotiations must be left to NCB

Wage increases must be earned by increases in productivity, Mrs Margaret Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C) said during questions at the House of Commons.

Mr Michael Ancram (Edinburgh South, C)—Mrs Thatcher should consider the implications of the miners' ballot. The demands they are making are quite different from many elderly people who use coal for heating, let alone pricing coal off the market.

Mrs Thatcher—I am concerned at high wage claims. They can only be justified if we get much higher output, otherwise the outcome is bound to be increased prices as well as having an effect on the amount of coal people can buy.

We cannot put up cash limits on a coal mine beyond that, we must leave the actual negotiations

being considered and a statement would be made in due course.

in time of war or other public emergency threatening the life of the nation the Queen by Order in Council may make such regulations as he thinks fit for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the Protection of Human Rights Bill.

Lord Wade (L), moving it, said that under Article 13 of the Convention there was a power of derogation but he had been told by distinguished lawyers that it was not such as to constitute an emergency and a considerable amount of time might be taken up, which would defeat the object of the Bill.

The committee stage was concluded.

Lord Elwyn-Jones (Lab) said the Lord Chancellor's proposals, which were very tentative, were also

Terrorists do not want political settlement in Ulster

The Director of Public Prosecutions was studying evidence that the Provisional IRA had a plan to take over the Government of Northern Ireland.

Mr James Kilfeather (North Down, UUP) said that he was not sure if the Ulster people are at this conference. He said that the Government was determined to find a way forward to the people of Northern Ireland—they were the ones who wanted it.

Mr Atkins—I do not know of such an official answer to my invitation. But it is in the interests of the SDLP, as much as those of everyone else in the Province, that they should come to talk under my chairmanship and discuss how better we can govern the Province.

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During later questions, Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L) asked—On the apparent refusal of the SDLP to take the talks, could the good offices of the Prime Minister of the Republic be used to encourage them to do so? (Some laughter.)

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Both sides urged to stop fighting in Rhodesia

There was a chance of getting a cease-fire agreement on Rhodesia if the two sides would stop fighting.

Mr Michael Latham (Melton, C) said that the Government was determined to find a way forward to the people of Northern Ireland—they were the ones who wanted it.

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Minister hopes nurses will come to UK from Europe

Mr Peter Shore, Minister of Health, said that the Government was determined to find a way forward to the people of Northern Ireland—they were the ones who wanted it.

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SPORT

Racing

Dramatist holds the best credentials on experience and form

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

With both Beacon Light and Dramatist showing their form overnight, the Oxfordshire Steeplechase promises to be a highly interesting race at Newbury today.

The two principal contenders were of much the same ability when they raced over hurdles. They can both claim to have beaten each other in the past and also to have finished third in the Champion Hurdle. So what will happen in this, their first encounter over fences is anyone's guess.

My feeling is that Dramatist may just have the edge. Reason being that he has a better record in the Chase than in the Hurdle. He has won three of his four races over fences, including the Champion Hurdle, while Beacon Light has won only one of his four races over fences, including the Champion Hurdle.

But Dramatist has accumulated much more experience at steeplechasing and could easily find the scales his way especially at Newbury where he has won three times at today's course and distance. Equally important is the fact that he has finished second in the National Hunt two-time Champion Steeplechase at Cheltenham, which was a laudable feat for a beginner.

Dramatist's form in particular over form time days ago when he won his first race of the season, he was absolutely perfect all the way and it was only a narrow margin that he lost to his rival, old Tragus. Gendy does it and Commander General complete the field. Tragus made an encouraging start to his steeplechasing career this season as he has not run this autumn.

That could count against him, as he is a sprinter, not a stayer as Dramatist and Beacon Light. Furthermore, he would probably prefer softer ground. But he has been successful at Newbury and at Stratford earlier in the autumn but his limitations are exposed as he has not run in the last two races. He has won the Bournemouth Gold Cup. At the time he was out of contention. Commander General has never run in this year.

Weight should not worry Rathgorman

By Michael Seely

The big names in steeplechasing will soon be swinging into action. Next week Tony Dickinson will be running both his potential Cheltenham Gold Cup candidates, Gay Sparrow and Silver Buck. Gay Sparrow, a short-priced favourite for last month's race, will, an injury caused his withdrawal, will be showing his form in the Sunday Handicap Steeplechase at Kempton Park.

Gay Sparrow has not yet been seen out this season, but Silver Buck, who will be taking on Dickinson, has been running well. Dickinson's record in the Hammer Memorial Steeplechase at Haydock Park the following after, has already shown his well-being in the hands of the handicapper.

A month is a long time to look ahead in the winter game. But all going well Dickinson could have two strings to his bow for the King George VI Steeplechase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day. Last year's winner, Gay Sparrow, would be the favourite if he is fit and ready to go.

The family are launching a raid on the Lincolnshire course at Market Rasen, who will be taking on Dickinson's horse. Obviously their horse is in good form. Dickinson's horse is in good form. Dickinson's horse is in good form.

Dickinson's other runners are Privy Consort, who takes the field in the Have-a-Care Long Distance Novices Hurdle, and Bannow Breeze, who will be making his first appearance over fences in the Aston Arms Novices Steeplechase.

Another trainer with a big race candidate was in the news at Towcester yesterday. Roddy Armytage whose Straight locally strongly fancied to win tomorrow's Hammer Memorial Steeplechase at Haydock Park, has been injured by a fall from a horse.

The old veteran has backed down from 3-1 to 10-1 at 13-8. His market rival Kidimo Star made an effort to get to grips with the struggle but to no avail. Aukland Jack, on the other hand, was having his first race over fences but he too jumped freely before going clear to win by eight lengths.

The gelding was trained by Mike Amell's son Nick, who sold Aukland Jack to Mrs David Plunkett and her husband. The winner's dam, Aukland Girl, won several races for her owner, Stephen, before being bought for the paddock.

Another favourite to succeed was Simpson Jersey in the Siresham Opportunity Handicap Hurdle. Even money, a short-priced favourite, he was having his first race over fences but he too jumped freely before going clear to win by eight lengths.

It was good to see Gay Kind, who was the favourite in the after Rigdon Nook had run his opponents into the ground in the first division of the Marchmont Juvenile Novices Hurdle.

The Aga Khan and Yves Saint-Martin will continue their association during 1980. Last Monday, Saint-Martin achieved his 100th win for the Aga Khan in the Aga Khan's Shamshara. Earlier this month the 38-year-old former French champion, took his career total to 2,500.

With a few flat meetings left to run, it is almost sure that the Aga Khan will be the leading owner in France. A good number of his horses have so far won 91 races and there are total winnings of around £580,000. A good number of his horses have so far won 91 races and there are total winnings of around £580,000.

Market Rasen programme

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2. 1.25 ASTON ARMS STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £916: 2m)
3. 1.50 GORDON ARMS HURDLE (Handicap: £906: 2m)
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FOREIGN REPORT

France's high pastures

Worst days are over for the Larzac sheep farmers

The first snows of winter are dusting the rocky hills in the highlands of south-western France. Around Rodez and Millau in the Aveyron, where great flocks of sheep are the mainstay of the local economy, the shepherds are preparing for the cold months to come.

These are France's main sheep ranges, where the high pastures flourish. The flocks that produce Roquefort cheese, fine leather and the best piglets the country has to offer. But caring for the sheep is a tough life, which has taught the local people to fight not only the elements but, if necessary, the inevitable.

Thus, the biggest demonstrations against the importing of

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Into the 80 s: a long gloomy way before things can get any better

that earnings during the current pay round will only grow by about 14 per cent. Most outside forecasters would put the figure considerably higher. Both ministers and the CBI talk as if the present signs are

Take the inflation forecast for example. The Treasury rightly says that with profits at their present level labour costs are absolutely crucial in determining the rate of inflation. Yet few people would accept the implied assumption that earnings during the current pay round will only grow by about 14 per cent. Most outside forecasters would put the figure considerably higher. Both ministers and the CBI talk as if the present signs are

ing the wages will grow by 18 per cent and that inflation will stay very high they will actually raise their pay claims. This is an old belief coming from a Government which is committed to not having an incomes policy; for if merely announcing a figure for the likely increase in earnings makes it come true the philosopher's stone which has eluded governments for so long has at last been found.

Maybe that is what the

The words which the Government uses to describe the result are interesting. They say that our "price competitiveness does not change greatly from recent levels." What can this mean if our inflation is, on the

Christopher Walker

Every good
US mole
catcher knows
how to type

American counter-intelligence training has advanced considerably since the fifties and is now very thorough and well balanced. (There is even time for the student at Fort Huachuca to "meet with his faculty adviser" to discuss and identify learning problem areas). Its products have apparently been more successful in hindering the infiltration of moles than its British equivalent. Any enquiry into the Rumor Affair should examine

The author was a research student at Harvard last year.

A bruising, bitter year for Radio Scotland

name of a philosophy in any technical sense, represent a carefully thought out view of ethics, a consistent attitude to religion and, towards the end of his life, a complex, almost mystical conception of the universe³, he wrote,

The attraction of Blake's art, on which Professor Blum num-

lished a study in 1960, had a similar root: for Blake too, he believes, philosophical and religious beliefs formed the starting point of his creation, though Blake was primarily a poet, and no master of formal composition.

The lure of Picasso, on whose early years Professor Blunt produced a fascinating study in 1962 with Phoebe Pool, one of his Courtauld Institute students,

**Christmas is the
cruellest time
—when you're old
and alone**

Christmas is a time for caring and sharing. Please use the FREEPOST facility and address your gift to :
The Hon. Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T3, FREEPOST 30, London W1E 7JZ (No stamp needed).

When Mr Alair Hetherington, formerly editor of *The Guardian*, left as Controller of BBC Scotland, an instant vacuum was created in the Scottish dimension to broadcasting departed. His successor, Mr Par Walker, has just produced some excellent material on the subject of the "sudden changes of gear" and programmes jarring on one another with a kind of

Smoothing the edges, softening the culture shock and designing an even flow of programmes will be the task of the new head of Radio Scotland who is unlikely to be appointed for another two or three months.

Part of the answer is that Poussin came well before Maximalism in Professor Blunt's life. He spent much of his childhood in Paris, where his father was chairman of the British church. The Louvre was his first national gallery. According to his friend and fellow-art historian Sir Ellis Waterhouse, the shadow of Poussin was already on the horizon when they were

The link with Poussin

on which Professor Blunt published a study in 1960, had a similar root: for Blake too, he believes, philosophical and religious beliefs formed the starting point of his creation, though Blake was primarily a poet, and no master of formal composition.

The lure of Picasso, on whose early years Professor Blunt produced a fascinating study in 1962 with Phoebe Pool, one of his Courtauld Institute students,

— Perhaps it was from that class system that Anthony Blunt was trying to escape. Being of a mathematical and philosophical bent, he sought refuge on the one hand in the perfections of Poussin, and on the other in the total solution which Marxism seemed to offer.

Roger Berthoud

JERUSALEM DIARY

Symbolic cracks appear in the Wailing Wall

rabbi. One had his telephone rung at the start of the Sabbath, meaning that under religious law he had to let it ring unanswered for 24 hours.

holidays, and the amount of time spent studying the Bible is generally regarded as the reason why orthodox Jews are so pale despite the noted Israeli sunshine.

Although brutal and bewildering in equal measures, the feuding is not thought by local observers to be sufficiently serious to defuse the wider and potentially more damaging clash between secular and ultra-religious Jews. As one Western diplomat explained: "The real test of peace will be to see whether Israeli society can cope with its internal

Waiting for the Messiah

Although fervently Jewish and strictly kosher, many Me Shearim residents are as opposed to the present state of Israel as any Palestinian revolutionary. Those adhering to the powerful Neturei Karta sect refuse to recognize a Zionist state until the coming of the Messiah. As a result they refuse to pay taxes, to join the Army, or even to visit the Wallingford Wall now that it is under Israeli control. Where possible, they take only Arab taxis, refuse to use the "Zionist" telephone and avoid using Israeli money.

In the past few weeks, a violent feud has broken out in Me Shearim between the ultra-

As well as leaving one prominent rabbi with a head wound which needed 40 stitches, the dispute has taken a number of

The Israeli-Saudi dispute is the intensity of the animosity of the struggle for power between those orthodox Jews who refuse to recognize the state and those who are slightly less rigid, being willing to barter political unity for the sake of power and prestige. The Government's sponsorship of strict new legislation on religious issues. The cash is used for the yeshivas or religious schools, formidable centres of learning which function as a sort of substitute Sabbath school for the orthodox Jew. The freedom to turn to quit the calendar does not give any summer holiday, and the amount of time spent studying the Bible is generally regarded as the reason why orthodox Jews are so pale and desolate the noted Israeli historian.

Although mutual and bewildering in equal measures, the feuding is not thought by local observers to be sufficiently serious to defuse the wider and potentially more damaging clash between secular and ultra-religious Jews. As one ultra-religious Jew explains, "The Israeli diplomatic establishment will be able to see whether Israeli society can cope with its internal

Christopher Walker

The Times Obituaries Supplement:3

SIR BARNES WALLIS Aircraft and missile inventor



Sir Barnes Wallis, seen here in 1975 with a reconstructed "bouncing bomb" designed for the destruction of the Möhne and Eden dams in Germany over 30 years before. This bomb was later given to RAF Scampton.

Sir Barnes Wallis, CBE, FRS, died on October 30 at the age of 92, was one of the most creative engineers in a unique degree of the use of imaginative thinking of practical design. Among his many inventions best known were probably geodesic form of aeroplane fuselage, the special form with which during the Möhne and Eden dams were breached, the "earthquake" bombs and the variable geometry Swallow aircraft.

Barnes Neville Wallis was born on September 26, 1887, at his home in Scampton, Lincolnshire. He was educated at his home and at the Royal Naval School, Gosport, where he was a cadet. He was a member of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, the Royal Navy, and the Royal Air Force. He was a member of the Royal Society, the Royal Aeronautical Society, and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

His career began in 1907 when he joined the Royal Naval Air Station, where he was a member of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. He was a member of the Royal Naval Air Station, where he was a member of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. He was a member of the Royal Naval Air Station, where he was a member of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.

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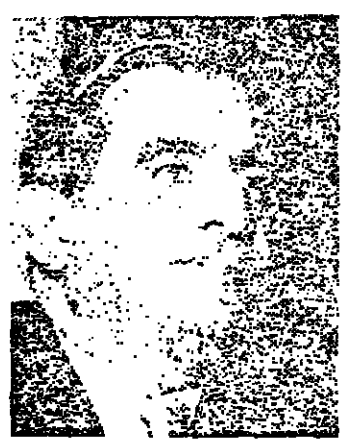
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variable sweep F 111 flying and the Boeing variable sweep supercruciform project accepted for development by the United States Government, the magnitude of Wallis's achievement in forecasting the trend of aerodynamic progress and in giving it practical form in his Swallow design began to be recognized by those in authority. But it was too late. Wallis, who had told some of his friends that he looked upon his variable sweep supercruciform aircraft as his last major inventive effort, was saddened to see his original ideas frustrated or handed to others for realization. Although he refused to bemoan his fate and still looked forward to further even more advanced air travel possibilities, he did not feel the setback that had been administered to the final stages of his creative work in aeronautics.

Wallis, spare but well proportioned in face and form, was a hairdressed and usually dressed in a light coloured suit. Wallis had a reputation for being a bit of a dandy, but he was a man of great energy and a great sense of humour. He was a man of great energy and a great sense of humour. He was a man of great energy and a great sense of humour.

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SIR LEON BAGRIT Early faith in automation



Sir Leon Bagrit, sometimes called the "father of automation in Britain", and an industrial visionary of undoubted significance, died on April 22 at the age of 77.

He was chairman of Elliott Automation Ltd. from 1963 to 1973, a firm very much the child and product of his own original ideas and as the result of amalgamations and restructurings now known as GEC-Elliott Automation Ltd., a subsidiary through the English Electric Company, Ltd. of GEC.

He was a figure of European importance in the development and expansion of that series of self-actuating engineering techniques now known generally as automation.

The significance and importance of Bagrit's contribution to industry was his realization, just after the Second World War, that there must come a great and increasing use of mechanical processes which would constitute something like a new industrial revolution. By the time he had reached middle life Bagrit had developed a striking and most versatile personality, which manifested itself not only in the fields of invention and business management but in the arts of music and the visual arts.

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Mr L. G. Frise

Mr L. G. Frise, FRAeS, whose death at the age of 84 was reported on October 9, was an aeronautical engineer who designed a considerable number of aircraft, including the British aircraft industry has produced.

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SIR NORMAN KIPPING Task of organizing industrialists



Sir Norman Kipping, GCMG, Director-General of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, died on November 23 at the age of 82.

He was a member of the Royal Society, the Royal Aeronautical Society, and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. He was a member of the Royal Society, the Royal Aeronautical Society, and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

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Sr Amedee Gordini

Signor Amedee Gordini, who died in Paris in late May at the age of 79, was a brilliant designer of sports and Grand Prix cars.

He was a member of the Royal Society, the Royal Aeronautical Society, and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. He was a member of the Royal Society, the Royal Aeronautical Society, and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

Rise and fall of overseas contenders for power

PRESIDENT HOUARI BOUMEDIENNE

Significant influence in Third World

President Houari Boumedienne of Algeria died last December 27.

His real name was Mohamed Bou Kharrouba, and he was born at Guelma, near Bone, in 1925. He received a Koranic education at the Zitouna Mosque, in Tunis, and at Al-Azhar University, in Cairo, and subsequently served in the French Army. He became, however, inspired by the growing Algerian Nationalist movement, and a meeting in Cairo in 1955 with Ben Bella, the leader of the Front de Libération Nationale, the organization controlling resistance to the French within Algeria, caused him to throw in his lot with the rebels.

In 1957 he secretly reentered Algeria, where the revolution was by then in full spate, and soon displayed such ability and keenness in guerrilla operations that by 1958 he had been given the rank of "Colonel" in the "Liberation Army" and was in charge of operations in one of its five "divisions".

In 1960 he was appointed Chief of its General Staff and held this position throughout the remainder of the campaign against the French, which ended with the ceasefire in March, 1962, after Frantz had, by virtue of the agreements signed at Evian the previous month, promised independence to Algeria.

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Independence, his support of Ben Bella against Ben Khedda turned the scales in favour of the former, who obtained complete control. As a result Boumedienne was that autumn appointed Minister of National Defence in the first independent Algerian Government, and in 1963 became Vice-President of the Revolutionary Council.

Gradually, however, he became disenchanted with Ben Bella's personality cult and with his Marxism, which conflicted with his own strict Islamic principles; and in 1965, when Ben Bella began to interfere in the Army which had put him in power, Boumedienne ousted him in a bloodless coup d'état and became Prime Minister and President of the Revolutionary Council, though he did not at once take the title of President of the Republic.

A lean, ascetic, and devout bachelor, he formed a complete contrast to his flamboyant predecessor. His manner of dress was simple, his speech direct, and his behaviour towards the Algerians better than Ben Bella's grandiloquence, and he soon earned respect by his obvious dedication. His fixed purpose, as became clear, was to transform Algeria at that time backward and mainly agricultural country into a modern, socialistic, and industrialized state. To that end he replaced Ben Bella's foreign Marxist advisers by young Algerian technocrats, his strategy and dedicated himself; step by step he nationalized all basic resources; and in 1969 he instituted a "Four-Year Plan", intended mainly to develop industrial expansion, and to expand agriculture and to provide the skilled manpower of which the French departure had left the



country painfully short. In 1971 he carried the process further by nationalizing the French oil interests in the country, and successfully rode out the ensuing bitter clash with the French Government. By 1975 he was visited by President Giscard d'Estaing in a gesture of reconciliation.

In foreign affairs, again in contrast to Ben Bella, he originally adopted a studiously moderate line, keeping Algeria aloof from the more extreme Middle Eastern or African regimes and avoiding undesirable commitments, especially in regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

During the next years his policies bore fruit. His regime remained authoritarian, but there was little internal friction, and he found no need to change advisers. Moreover, the Communist regime seemed to be over. But when in 1968 it was necessary to find a new head of state, he was an acceptable candidate, since he was thought to be neither too little of one, was less compromised than other leading public figures and could pass as one of the unattached "victims" of the purges of the fifties. Moreover, he was thought to be persona grata with the Soviet regime, thanks to the close relations he had had with the Soviet marshals during the war. Finally he had the advantages of having arbitrary decisions from above, in both Russian and Czech.

When he was elected President no one expected much of him. He was thought to be a weak man who would not resist Russian pressure. His initial speeches as president were indeed not so very different from those of Novotny. However, unlike Novotny, he received and feted all classes of people at the castle and gradu-

prosperity; as a result, the educated Algerians developed a sense of purpose and self-confidence in the country's future, which had hitherto been lacking for the future. Even a potentially controversial measure of land redistribution introduced early in 1972 was generally accepted.

In 1973 Algeria's growing stature began to be reflected in Boumedienne's influence in the Third World. In September he became Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Association of Non-Aligned States, a position of importance at the terminals of the violence constructed from the oilfields to ports on the North African coast. Boumedienne's difficulties had been increased by unemployment in Algeria, to which many hundreds of Algerians were employed in France wished to return but could not find employment.

While, therefore, the country was being supported by its steady but not increasing exports of oil, the limited resources which it had been confidently anticipating would form its major revenue were being slow in realization. The President, therefore, was being faced with economic difficulties which were difficult of resolution; and this was perhaps largely responsible for the illness which struck him down in the summer of 1978.

Earlier he had come out strongly against President Sadat's Middle East peace initiative and travelled to Tripoli, to Syria and Iraq, in an attempt to consolidate Arab opposition. In October last year he was in Russia where he joined Mr Brezhnev in condemning the peace negotiations.

Mauritanian Government to take over the territory by agreement with Spain; and this conflict has continued until today.

Boumedienne's attention was increasingly focused on the situation in his own country, where the land reform project which he had initiated had run into grave difficulties: enough teachers with an adequate knowledge of Arabic had not been produced, and the export of gas, on which great hopes had been placed, had been hindered by the difficulties encountered in constructing the necessary liquefaction organizations at the terminals of the pipelines constructed from the oilfields to ports on the North African coast. Boumedienne's difficulties had been increased by unemployment in Algeria, to which many hundreds of Algerians were employed in France wished to return but could not find employment.

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AMIR ABBAS HOVEYDA

Victim of change in Iran

Amir Abbas Hoveyda, who was Prime Minister of Iran from 1965 to 1977, was executed in Tehran on April 7 after being convicted of a number of crimes by the Islamic Revolutionary Court. He was 61. He had been dismissed as Prime Minister by the then Shah in August 1977 after criticism in Parliament of the country's food shortages and high inflation.

He was born in Tehran in 1919 and educated in Beirut, Brussels and Paris. In 1942 he entered the diplomatic service, thus following in the footsteps of his father, who had been Iranian Minister to the Lebanon and Saudi Arabia. After a spell as Private Secretary to the then Prime Minister Husein Ala, he became Iranian representative on the United Nations Refugee Committee in Geneva, where he remained during the difficult Musaddiq period in Iran. In 1958 he was recalled to Tehran and given a post in the National Iranian Oil Company, where he remained for the next five years. In 1963 he became Deputy Secretary-General of his friend Ali Mansur's new party, the National Front, and in 1967 he was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs in Mansur's first government.

In 1965 Mansur was assassinated and Hoveyda was called upon by the Shah to succeed him. His party was

successful in the 1967 elections, and Hoveyda was reappointed to the Premiership. He filled his office with considerable ability.

As time went on he found his responsibilities diminished by the Shah's increasing reluctance to delegate authority in important matters: it was he, for example, who settled disputes with Iraq and with certain Persian Gulf States, and he who, on the strength of a dramatic rise in the country's revenues resulting from a quintupling of oil prices, launched an ambitious 5-year plan of economic development. In 1973, however, the yearning of the incessant bickering between the two main political parties which had been the Shah's Minister considered were gravely hampering the processes of government, he merged them in the so-called "People's National Front" (Rastakhs) and appointed Hoveyda its Secretary-General.

Meanwhile an economic crisis had arisen in the country, due partly to a sharp fall in the expected revenues caused by a levelling-off of oil prices, but more to errors of organization in what was proving to be an over-ambitious Plan. Too much investment in heavy industry at the expense of power-generation had produced serious power-shortages; and the results of these, and of other bottle-necks which had

been created, included reductions in both industrial and agricultural production, shortages of transport (which in turn led to port-congestion and held up imports), housing, and skilled labour, and led eventually to galloping inflation.

In 1976 the Shah replaced Hoveyda as the Party Secretary-General by his principal oil-negotiator, Jamshid Amouzegar, but retained him as Prime Minister.

By 1977, however, popular discontent had reached proportions which could not be ignored; and in August of that year the Shah decided that a new style of government was essential: he therefore reshuffled his Cabinet by dismissing the five Ministers mainly concerned with the implementation of the Plan and transferring Hoveyda (who had held office for no less than 12 years) to the less important, but still influential post of Minister of Court.

In November, 1978, Hoveyda was detained by the military government of General Gholamreza Ashraf, appointed by the Shah. Hoveyda had been blamed by opposition leaders at that time for much of the dissatisfaction in the country with the Shah's regime. After the Shah's departure this was not to save him from the Islamic revolutionary court and he was convicted and condemned to death after a trial lasting only a few hours.

Mr Edvard Kardelj

Mr Edvard Kardelj, who died on February 10 at the age of 59, was for many years, until his illness a few years ago, considered the most likely successor to Marshal Tito.

A schoolmaster by training who relinquished his profession almost as soon as he got his degree to become a communist revolutionary at the age of 18, Edvard Kardelj belonged to that generation of young communists Tito chose when the Comintern appointed him general secretary of the outlawed Yugoslav Communist Party in 1937. He was in fact the most influential survivor of the inner circle of Tito's war-time partners, the last of the small, tight-knit group of Tito's closest associates, who expressed the innermost circle, the other two, Mr Milovan Djilas and Mr Aleksandar Rankovic, former vice president and police chief, having both been disgraced. In fact, Mr Kardelj had been the second man of Yugoslavia's hierarchy for as long as Tito has been the first.

Quiet and unobtrusive, more at home with theoretical than practical politics, the ideologist of power rather than the man of power, he had been the chief architect of Yugoslavia's brand of socialism. A Slovene by birth, Kardelj was one of those rare Yugoslav politicians who stood above local national interests and occupied an almost unique position as a man whose national impartiality was beyond dispute.

Outside his own country he was often referred to as the "bear" of the Balkans. This may not have been entirely true for the simple reason that no single person could ever have Tito's charismatic power or personal authority to wield power on his own. But he was one of the two men, Dr Vladimir Bakarić being the second, who would have had the necessary personal authority and position to act as an impartial arbiter between various national interest groups in the event of Tito's death. He and Dr Bakarić were the only two men who sat on the nine-man state presidency as well as on the 24-man party presidium. Had he outlived Tito, he would certainly have become the dominant figure within the collective system of succession of which he was the architect.

He was a mild mannered, and gave the impression of being uninterested in personal power. But beneath it, there was a man of great courage and of enormous determination who, more than any other Yugoslav, left his personal imprint on the Yugoslav scene.

In 1943 it was Tito who made the historic decision to defy Stalin. But it was Kardelj who provided the theoretical basis for the defiance and who checked the alternative road.

If Kardelj had remained the man Moscow mistrusted and disliked more than any other Yugoslav, it was precisely because he was the man behind all liberalizing reforms—from the beginning, in 1948, when the former student and teacher in Comintern's Lenin school first denounced "soviet state capitalism" and set down to preparing the theoretical groundwork for an alternative to the end, when in 1978 Kardelj, already a dying man, told the Yugoslav party con-

gress that socialism cannot hold the way of progress without extending freedom and democracy to all strata of society regardless of their ideological creeds. This was a plea for democratization of a man who knew that he was dying. It was also a warning against the danger of bureaucracy.

Born in 1910 in Ljubljana into a working class family, Kardelj joined the outlawed league of Young Communists as a sixteen year old schoolboy. By the time he was 22 he already had a two year prison experience behind him and the reputation of a convinced Marxist and disciplined communist, dreaming, as he recalled many years later, of revolution spreading like Balkan and uniting all its warring nations into a Communist Balkan federation.

He met Tito in 1934 and from then on, the destinies of the two vastly different personalities became inextricably linked. Tito, a mortal worker, had just been appointed by the Comintern into the central committee of the outlawed Yugoslav communist party. Tito was 42. He had just come out from prison to find the Yugoslav Communist Party torn by factional strife, its membership reduced to a mere 3,000 and its leadership fled to Vienna. Kardelj, a young intellectual, dedicated himself to the task of rebuilding the party.

During the war he was one of the organizers of Tito's resistance movement in his native Slovenia, and after the war, alternately, foreign minister, vice premier, and president of the federal assembly.

But above all, he was the man of ideas, the pioneer of Yugoslavia's theory and practice, the author of the Yugoslav party programme which was bitterly denounced by Moscow in 1948, the author of the Yugoslav constitution's legisla-

tion aimed at reinforcing the system of self-management by giving the working class more power and influence.

He worked tirelessly to the very end. His ideas of "self-management" and "democracy" were the phrase he coined and which provoked considerable controversy—may not have been fully endorsed. But recognition was unique for a communist state: different groups of citizens are guided by different interests and that communists should compete with other interest groups rather than impose arbitrary decisions from above, became part of Yugoslav Theory.

Neto was not the only Angolan nationalist leader in exile, and for the next decade or more he seemed to be as much concerned with trying to ensure that he and his party would inherit power as he was in striving for independence. During this period the rivalry between Neto and the MPLA on the one hand, and Holden Roberto and the FNLA on the other seriously weakened the independence movement in Angola as a whole, and both parties competed with increasing bitterness for recognition and support by those in Africa and elsewhere who for one reason or another were interested in the future of Angola.

In 1964 Neto paid his first visit to Russia, and he broadened the basis of his support by an audience with the Pope in 1970 and a visit to communist China in the following year.

Realizing that the rivalry between the MPLA and the FNLA not only weakened the nationalist effort but opened the way to outside intervention in the African continent, bodies like the Afro-Asian conference and the Organization for African Unity tried several times to reconcile the opposing factions, and in 1972 Neto and Holden Roberto agreed to set up a united liberation headquarters in Kinshasa and a

joint Angolan government in exile with Roberto as titular head but effective control vested in Neto as commander of its military forces.

The reconciliation proved to be superficial. Although the Portuguese authorities eventually negotiated the terms of independence for Angola with all the three main nationalist movements, the birth of independent Angola in November 1975 was the signal for the establishment of two rival republics and an intensification of the fighting which had already broken out between the rival leaders and their supporters, with the FNLA and UNITA led by Jonas Savimbi, leaning on applied arms and mercenaries on neighbouring black and white African neighbours, and Neto and the MPLA becoming more and more dependent on arms and mercenaries from Cuba and the Soviet Union. By the spring of 1976 Neto had gained the upper hand, and he paid official visits to Cuba and to Russia to thank them for their help. In 1977 Neto achieved the international recognition and respectability he needed by getting Angola admitted to the United Nations, and with this river crossed he started the process of mending his political and economic bridges with those in Africa and elsewhere who had supported his rivals during his long drawn out rise to power.

In June 1978 Neto signed an agreement covering mutual aid and friendship with President Eanes of Portugal and in August visited President Mobutu of Zaïre who had backed FNLA and UNITA in the Angolan civil war. Ways of improving relations between the two countries were discussed. The exact strength and influence of Mr Savimbi's UNITA movement and the chances of his fulfilling his aim to force Neto and the MPLA to negotiate with him remained hard to assess.

was proposing the dismissal of Dubeck and his replacement by Husak, whom he praised, or that he was justifying the Soviet invasion in public in the Soviet Union. He was no doubt supremely unhappy with developments inside his country and contemplated resignation many times, but he probably hoped that by staying he might be able to prevent the worst happening.

Svoboda was a man who would screw his courage a little way but not to the sticking point.

He was re-elected President in 1973 but was later several times in hospital and was succeeded as president by Dr Husak in 1975.

The same could not be said of his wife and family. Mr Svoboda spent almost the whole war in Czechoslovakia in hiding and working for the resistance. At a crucial moment of Svoboda's talks in Moscow in 1968 he is said to have been up and received the order not to give in. His son was caught and killed by a lethal injection made on him by an SS "doctor" on March 7, 1942, at the age of 17. Svoboda learnt of this during the heaviest fighting of the DUKLA campaign.

Sir Milo Butler

Sir Milo Butler, GCMG, CVO, whose death at the age of 72 was reported on January 26, was the first Bahamian Governor-General of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. He was sworn as Governor-General in 1973, at a public ceremony in Rawson Square in the centre of Nassau, but, after he had suffered a severe stroke, the Acting Governor-General Sir Gerald Cash was appointed from the spring of 1976 to the post of Governor-General. Sir Milo still occasionally appeared in public however.

Born in Nassau on August 11, 1906, to George Raleigh and Frances M. Butler, he was educated in the Bahamas and in Florida. He was a large man, with a reputation for toughness and bluntness, and he made no bones of his dislike of the white domination of political and economic life in the Bahamas in all but the last ten or so years of his lifetime.

His entry into political life came early, and in 1936 he ran against the late Sir Harry Oakes for seat in the "Street Boys" in Nassau. The following year he ran again against another candidate at a by-election, and won. This was at a time when there were no political parties in the Bahamas, and he was unopposed in the 1942 elections, but lost his seat in 1949.

In 1956 he joined forces with the emerging Progressive Liberal Party, which had been founded three years previously, and which identified itself strongly with the aspirations of the black majority, and was successful at the polls, being returned as the representative of the Western District in New Providence.

The next ten years were to be stormy ones in the Bahamas, as the political ascendancy of the white merchant class, the "Bay Street Boys" in Nassau and their supporters in Parliament from the "Our Islands" was vigorously challenged. The habitual deference of much of the black population had to be shattered if the PLP was to win a majority, and in one incident, the Leader of the PLP and Prime Minister, Mr Pindling, seized the mace and flung it at the window of the Chamber. Butler, picked up the hourglass from the Clerk's table and it too followed the mace into the street.

In 1967, the PLP won by a very narrow margin, and Sir Milo Butler, now representing Bain's Town, was appointed Minister of Health and Welfare, where he rapidly gained a reputation as a dynamic administrator. After the General Election of 1968, his portfolio was expanded to include Agriculture and Fisheries.

At the next General Election, in September, 1972, the Progressive Liberal Party's position was by now clearly unassailable, as it received a majority of 28 out of the 38-seat House of Assembly. The Prime Minister, Mr Pindling, announced that he proposed to advise the Queen to appoint Milo Butler Governor-General of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas following independence. For some months the Governor-General designate remained in the Cabinet as Minister without Portfolio. He resigned from the Cabinet and the House of Assembly on June 10, 1973, a knighthood was conferred on June 13, and he was sworn in as Governor-General on August 1, 1973, in Rawson Square.

Butler was a very successful merchant and businessman outside public life. He started with a small dry-goods store in Nassau, and made a great success of it, and the family holdings eventually encompassed

Mr Yilma Deressa

Yilma Deressa, a former Foreign Minister of Ethiopia, died on January 28 at the age of 71. He was born in 1904, unlike most prominent Ethiopians, of Galla and not of Amhara race—and was educated at the Menelik School in Addis Ababa, at Victoria College Alexandria, at the London School of Economics, thereafter entering the Ethiopian Foreign Office.

Captured by the Italians when they occupied Ethiopia in 1936, he was sent to Italy, where he remained until after the liberation of Ethiopia in 1941. Returning to his country, he was in 1942 appointed to the Ministry of Finance, of which he

became Vice-Minister in 1943, and in 1949 was promoted to be Minister of Commerce and Industry. In 1953 he was sent to the United States in the dual capacity of Ambassador in Washington and Head of the Ethiopian Delegation to the United Nations. His command of English and the graceful charm of his wife Elizabeth, daughter of a former Foreign Minister, Dr Marcin, were assets in both these posts, which he held for the next five years; and when in 1958 he was recalled to Addis Ababa it was to become Foreign Minister. After a Cabinet headed by his predecessor Akilou Habte-Wold.

The assignment was not an easy one, for his Prime Minister had for many years been the architect of Ethiopian foreign policy and could hardly be expected to relinquish his position of chief adviser to the Emperor in this field. It was therefore no surprise when in 1960 Deressa was transferred to the Ministry of Finance, a post for which he had a particular liking in view of his economic training.

In 1969 he was again transferred, this time to take charge of the Ministries of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism; and in 1971 he was appointed to the Emperor's Crown Council, an honorary post carrying with it a certain standing. In 1974, however, he was arrested and imprisoned early in the insurrection which ended with the deposition of the Emperor, and spent the rest of his life in forced residence.



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GENERAL LUDVIK SVOBODA

Anti-climax for national pride

General Ludvik Svoboda, who died on September 20 at the age of 83, was elected President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in March, 1968, in succession to Antonin Novotny, who had been forced in the Prague Spring to resign both his posts of President and of Secretary of the Communist Party. The two posts were then separated and while Dubeck remained First Secretary Svoboda moved into the Prague castle to take up the office of President.

Under normal circumstances Svoboda could scarcely have hoped to merit such high office. Before the war he was a lieutenant colonel of no particular distinction and achieved fame only after his flight to Poland and later to the Soviet Union, where he formed and led the Czechoslovak military unit which operated under Soviet control. He was Minister of Defence in 1945 to his position as General commanding the Czechoslovak Army Corps, the support of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the good will of the Soviet Union. During the Prague coup d'état he came out in support of the Communists, joined the Party and was president of the Prague - Action Committee

which was responsible for drastic purges of non-Communists in all walks of life. Although this won him the post of Deputy Prime Minister in 1950, he was dismissed from his governmental posts the next year, and his political career under the Communist regime seemed to be over. But when in 1968 it was necessary to find a new head of state, he was an acceptable candidate, since he was thought to be neither too little of one, was less compromised than other leading public figures and could pass as one of the unattached "victims" of the purges of the fifties. Moreover, he was thought to be persona grata with the Soviet regime, thanks to the close relations he had had with the Soviet marshals during the war. Finally he had the advantages of having arbitrary decisions from above, in both Russian and Czech.

When he was elected President no one expected much of him. He was thought to be a weak man who would not resist Russian pressure. His initial speeches as president were indeed not so very different from those of Novotny. However, unlike Novotny, he received and feted all classes of people at the castle and gradu-

ally gained in popularity. His patriotic bearing during the invasion and immediately after the invasion earned him the reputation of a national hero. He was elected a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and a member of its Presidium on August 2, 1968 by the "illegal" congress of the Party which took place in Prague in secret. In his book he wrote: "The idea was to write and family. Mr Svoboda spent almost the whole war in Czechoslovakia in hiding and working for the resistance. At a crucial moment of Svoboda's talks in Moscow in 1968 he is said to have been up and received the order not to give in. His son was caught and killed by a lethal injection made on him by an SS "doctor" on March 7, 1942, at the age of 17. Svoboda learnt of this during the heaviest fighting of the DUKLA campaign.

Dr Antonio Neto

Dr Antonio Agostinho Neto, who was President of the Republic of Angola from 1975, died in Moscow on Sept. 11, he was 56. It was known at the time that he had been suffering from cancer.

Neto was the Portuguese African territories who Leopold Senghor was to the French; a man of outstanding intellectual abilities who took advantage of the opportunities offered by the colonial authorities to emerge as their principal opponent, a quiet, bespectacled poet of protest who became the dominant political and military figure in his country's struggle for independence.

Antonio Agostinho Neto was born in Angola in 1922, the son of a local Methodist pastor. He made his mark as a clever and hard-working schoolboy in a multi-racial Methodist school in Luanda, and after working for a few years in the government health service, he was sent in 1947 to study medicine at a succession of Portuguese universities, Lisbon, Coimbra and Porto. It took him 11 years to

complete his studies but this was due more to his involvement in political protest and the consequent periods of rustication than to any lack in academic effort or ability. He returned to Angola in 1958 as a qualified doctor but he had already become a very active member of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, the MPLA, and it was not long before his political activities brought him into conflict with the authorities. His popularity as a nationalist leader were such that he was imprisoned outside the country.

Neto was not the only Angolan nationalist leader in exile, and for the next decade or more he seemed to be as much concerned with trying to ensure that he and his party would inherit power as he was in striving for independence. During this period the rivalry between Neto and the MPLA on the one hand, and Holden Roberto and the FNLA on the other seriously weakened the independence movement in Angola as a whole, and both parties competed with increasing bitterness for recognition and support by those in Africa and elsewhere who for one reason or another were interested in the future of Angola.

In 1964 Neto paid his first visit to Russia, and he broadened the basis of his support by an audience with the Pope in 1970 and a visit to communist China in the following year.

Realizing that the rivalry between the MPLA and the FNLA not only weakened the nationalist effort but opened the way to outside intervention in the African continent, bodies like the Afro-Asian conference and the Organization for African Unity tried several times to reconcile the opposing factions, and in 1972 Neto and Holden Roberto agreed to set up a united liberation headquarters in Kinshasa and a

joint Angolan government in exile with Roberto as titular head but effective control vested in Neto as commander of its military forces.

The reconciliation proved to be superficial. Although the Portuguese authorities eventually negotiated the terms of independence for Angola with all the three main nationalist movements, the birth of independent Angola in November 1975 was the signal for the establishment of two rival republics and an intensification of the fighting which had already broken out between the rival leaders and their supporters, with the FNLA and UNITA led by Jonas Savimbi, leaning on applied arms and mercenaries on neighbouring black and white African neighbours, and Neto and the MPLA becoming more and more dependent on arms and mercenaries from Cuba and the Soviet Union. By the spring of 1976 Neto had gained the upper hand, and he paid official visits to Cuba and to Russia to thank them for their help. In 1977 Neto achieved the international recognition and respectability he needed by getting Angola admitted to the United Nations, and with this river crossed he started the process of mending his political and economic bridges with those in Africa and elsewhere who had supported his rivals during his long drawn out rise to power.

In June 1978 Neto signed an agreement covering mutual aid and friendship with President Eanes of Portugal and in August visited President Mobutu of Zaïre who had backed FNLA and UNITA in the Angolan civil war. Ways of improving relations between the two countries were discussed. The exact strength and influence of Mr Savimbi's UNITA movement and the chances of his fulfilling his aim to force Neto and the MPLA to negotiate with him remained hard to assess.

Obituaries Supplement

Careers in diplomacy and administration

Sir Cecil Dormer

Sir Cecil Francis Joseph Dormer, KCMG, MVO, who died on July 28 at the age of 96, was the fifth son of the Hon. Hubert Dormer. He was appointed to the Foreign Office in 1905, a Second Secretary six years later, and was assistant private secretary to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs during almost the whole of the First World War.

These early days in Dormer's career were spent while a revolution in British methods of diplomacy was being undertaken by British envoys abroad, a system of wireless telegraphy—it was in 1904 that he exchanged signals with Buenos Aires. With such developments, some of the local initiative possessed by British envoys abroad was lost and Whitehall assumed a tighter control on affairs. Furthermore, with the advent of the war in 1914, the Foreign Office was involved in plans to thwart the German economy by naval blockade and was also responsible for British propaganda. The number of officials rose by dramatic proportions.

Dormer married in 1915, Mary Fielding, eldest daughter of the 9th Earl of Denbigh, and she was to prove a staunch ally and mentor in the much-travelled life that lay ahead of the couple. After the war they journeyed to Constantinople and the Vatican and, in 1926, Dormer was appointed Counselor to the British Embassy in Tokyo. This was not long after the disastrous earthquake which resulted in a fire of dimensions previously unheard of in world history, which gutted 25 square miles of the city. The embassy had been destroyed and Dormer, in makeshift premises, was to stay, and it was his duty to help the Japanese people to rebuild the city. The embassy was then destroyed and Dormer, in makeshift premises, was to stay, and it was his duty to help the Japanese people to rebuild the city.

After Tokyo, Dormer was appointed Minister in Siam, and in 1934—from one extreme of limbo to another—journeyed to Norway. The German assault on Norway in 1940, however, was by surprise, and the first consideration became to remove the Norwegian royal family to safety in exile. It became Dormer's duty to supervise the evacuation and, at this point, his life's organizational genius was shown full sway. Cars were hastily organized but, clearly, any light luggage could be carried. Lady Mary Dormer was as prudent in possession of half with pockets wherein her jewelry could be contained. She was the one who held up the art of the conveyance, and insisted that the royal family should have been captured by the Germans. The journey north, where the British were being ingested by their teeth, was epic. The Norwegian armed forces were in disarray and his knowledge of the Germans was there. There is little doubt that a royal conveyance was one of his main objectives, but luck was on the side of the royal family—and the Danes. They arrived safely in Scotland, despite the fact that the Norwegian and German aircraft carriers were in the same waters and, dead, sank the aircraft-carrier *Uthmaniyah* at about that time. Dormer was awarded the War Medal and Grand Cross of St. Olav (Norway) for his endeavours.

In 1941, he was appointed ambassador extraordinary to the Polish government in exile in London, and retired from the Foreign Service two years later. He retained the spirit of eternal youth, probably because of his interest in the hunt, his wide reading, his quickness, his sense of adventure, all combined with an unusually high intellect. His wife died in 1973.

Sir George Rendel

Sir George Rendel, KCMG, had a long and distinguished career as a diplomat, and died on May 6 at the age of 90. George William Rendel was born on February 23, 1889, and was one of an eminent engineering family. He was educated at Downside and at Queen's College, Oxford, where he obtained classical scholarship in 1907 and a first in History in 1911. After studying at Heidelberg, Rome and Paris he passed first to the Diplomatic Service (as then was) in 1913, and was appointed to Berlin, but was transferred in 1914 to Athens, where he witnessed the long struggle between Venizelos and Constantine, of which he wrote a vivid account in his book *The Greek Revolution*. The war and the Olive. After serving in Rome, Lisbon and Madrid he was transferred to the Foreign Office, where he was head of the Eastern Department from 1930 to 1938.

In that capacity he played a leading part in cooperation with Sheikh Fazlul Wabari, the rabbi Minister in London, in establishing close and friendly

relations between the United Kingdom and the new kingdom of Saudi Arabia, visiting Riyadh and Jeddah in 1937. Lady Rendel accompanied him and, in native dress, was the first European woman ever to be received by King Ibn Saud. He had also been largely responsible for organizing the Montreux Straits Conference in 1936; and, early in 1938, he was able to realize a aim he had long had in view, the negotiation in Rome of an Anglo-Italian Agreement about Arabia and the Red Sea area, which unfortunately came too late to stem the tide of Mussolini's pro-German policy.

In 1938 he was appointed British Minister in Sofia. His efforts to prevent Bulgaria from falling under German control, and, after war broke out, to keep her at least neutral, were deflected by the entry of German troops into Sofia in March 1941. He broke off diplomatic relations and left via Constantinople, where a bomb placed by many agents in the luggage of the Legation party exploded, killing two members of his staff and severely wounding several others.

On his return to England he was first given the task of working out the scheme for the re-formation of the Foreign Service which had been instituted by Mr. Eden (as he then was). Sir Orme Sargent was in charge of the details, but many of the details were adopted from Rendel's recommendations. He was at the same time accredited to the Yugoslav Government in London, but when HM Government decided to transfer their support from Mihailovich to Tito, he found his position increasingly difficult and asked to be given another post.

During the next three or four years Rendel attended a number of international conferences in the United States and elsewhere, especially in connection with the formation of Unrra. He particularly devoted himself to the cause of the refugees, who were already becoming a serious problem, and took a leading part in the creation of what became known in 1947 as the International Refugee Organization.

In the spring of 1947 he was appointed by Mr. Bevin to be the United Kingdom Member of the United States and Canadian Delegation in Vienna, but it was clear that the Russians had no intention of concluding a treaty, and he was appointed British Ambassador to Belgium, where his first important task was the negotiation of the Treaty of Brussels, and where he became a close friend of M. Spaak. He was also the first British Ambassador to Belgium to pay an official visit to the Congo, and retired on pension in May 1950 at 61.

Having been sent to a conference on short-wave broadcasting, which was rendered abortive by Russian refusal to attend, in 1951 Rendel was appointed Minister in the Republic of the Congo. He was also a member and chairman of the Tripartite Commission on German Debts, for the successful outcome of which he was considered to have been largely responsible. He became chairman of the Singapore Constitutional Commission which met in Singapore in 1953 and 1954, and in June 1955 was appointed United Kingdom member of the European Commission in the Saar, from which, however, he had to resign owing to illness some months later. In 1953 he joined the board of the merchant banking firm of Singer and Aeradio Ltd. He was re-employed by the Foreign Office in connection with the Anglo-Egyptian Finance Agreement, 1953-64.

Sir John Hall

Sir John Harbison Hall, KCMG, DSO, OBE, MC, who died on June 17 at the age of 85, had a distinguished record in the First World War and in the Second was Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Aden and from 1944 to 1951 Governor and C-in-C, Uganda.

Born in 1894, he was educated at St Paul's School and at Lincoln College, Oxford, where he obtained his degree. He was then on military service in the European war until 1919, was mentioned in despatches and awarded the MC, DSO, and Croix de Guerre of Belgium. After his release from the Army Hall served in the Egyptian civil service, was posted to the Ministry of Finance, and employed there until, under the reconstruction scheme, he became in 1921 an assistant principal in the Colonial Office, where he worked in the Middle East Department until he was promoted Principal and in 1922 Principal. At this period and during the ten years which succeeded it he was on various occasions accredited representative to the Permanent Mandates Commission. From 1929 to 1932 he was a member of the British delegation to the League of Nations. Succeeded in 1932 to the Foreign Office, he was appointed in the following year to be Chief Secretary to the Government of Palestine, where he remained until 1937. He was then transferred to be British Resident in Zanzibar, served there for three years and in 1940 was transferred to be Governor and C-in-C, Aden, where he was promoted to the governorship

of Uganda, where he remained until his retirement from the public service in 1951.

For many of Hall's energy and ability, retirement did not signify idleness. He threw himself into a large number of business activities, becoming chairman of the Limer and Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., deputy chairman of the Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Co., and a director of the Midland Bank, the P & O Steam Navigation Co., Friary-Meux Ltd. and other companies.

Apart from his military distinctions, Hall was made an OBE in 1931 and a CMG in 1935. He was promoted to KCMG in 1941 and to GCMG in 1950. He held the first class of the Order of the British Star of Zanzibar and was a Knight of the Order of St John of Jerusalem.

In 1927 he married Torfrida Trevenen, by whom he had two daughters.

Sir Percy Wyn-Harris

Sir Percy Wyn-Harris, KCMG, MBE, who died on February 25 at the age of 75, was a distinguished colonial administrator and also a noted writer, painter and yachtsman. He was Governor and Commander in Chief of the Gambia from 1949 to 1958.

Percy Wyn Harris (he adopted the hyphen later in life) was born on August 24, 1903, the eldest son of Percy Martin Harris, JP. He was educated at Gresham's School and at Cambridge, and was a member of the Blue for cross-country running and was secretary of the University Mountaineering Club, in which he pioneered the ascent of the Alps, a practice then considered very dangerous.

Harris entered the Colonial Service in Kenya in 1926, and made his mark as an administrative officer with a special knowledge of African tribal affairs. In 1930-40 he was Settlement Officer for Kikuyu land claims, and in 1943 he was appointed Labour Liaison Officer, becoming Commissioner for the following year. He held this post for three years, during which he was promoted to the rank of Provincial Commissioner. In 1946 he was appointed Chief Native Commissioner and Member for African Affairs in the Executive Council.

During the period of his Kenya service, Harris, the first of the lower rank of Mr. Kenyon, Nelson, (17,000 ft) and the second ascent of Mt. Kenya's higher peak, Batian (17,058 ft) in 1929. He was also the first to visit North Island, Lake Rudolf (in 1931). He was a member of the Everest expedition of 1933, and took part with L. R. Wager in the first assault, reaching an altitude of 28,000 feet. A tower of strongholds, on occasions, he also accompanied the Everest expedition of 1936. "You simply must take him," Mr. Hugh Rutledge was told when selecting his team for the 1933 expedition to the Himalayas, and the quality of being in demand brought Wyn-Harris many other unusual and difficult assignments.

It is perhaps a little ironical that for the rest of his life service he should have been assigned to a territory where the land nowhere rises more than a few feet above sea level. At least, however, the broad expanse of the Gambia river gave him ample scope to indulge his alternative passion for sailing. In later years, after his retirement, this passion led him to the world in the 12 ton sloop, *Gunning Gravel*.

His administrative and political experience, his deep knowledge of and sympathy with the African, and his calm and courteous, yet firm, approach to the problems of government, made him an admirable choice as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Gambia Colony and Protectorate, where he served from 1949 until 1958. In the Gambia, as elsewhere, the years were the years of constitutional and political change, calling for many readjustments of the part of both government and people, and in Wyn-Harris the territory had a leader well qualified to pilot the local ship of state.

On relinquishing the Governorship in 1958, Wyn-Harris retired to Suffolk, but his experience and shrewd counsel were soon drawn upon again, for he was invited to serve as a member of the Devlin Commission, which was appointed in 1959 to enquire into the disturbances in Nyasaland. In 1960 he was appointed to serve as Administrator of the Northern Cameroons when that territory was separated from Nigeria on the grant of independence to the latter. In this capacity it was his task to organize a plebiscite to determine the future constitutional status of the country.

Sir Austin Strutt

Sir Austin Strutt, KCVO, CB, former Deputy Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, who died on May 29 at the age of 76, was one of an outstanding generation of civil servants who rapidly absorbed and passed on the finest traditions of public service in Britain.

Lord Halsby, GCB, KBE, who was head of the Civil Service from 1963 to 1968, died on December 5 at the age of 70.

Laurence Norman Halsby was born in April 1908 and was educated at Sedburgh and Keble College, Oxford (for both of which institutions he always maintained the highest regard). After leaving Oxford, he lectured in economics at the University of Exeter for a short time, and then at the University of Durham from 1931 until the war.

In April 1940 Halsby became a Clerk in the House of Commons. A year later, he moved to the Treasury as a temporary administrative officer.

In 1962, 22 years after this, he was appointed as head of the Service which he had joined in a temporary capacity in this comparatively humble post.

His appointment in 1962 as a Joint Permanent Secretary to the Treasury and head of the home civil service was the consequence of prolonged thought about the best way of organizing the key top posts in the Treasury and the Cabinet Office. Immediately after the war, Sir Edward Bridges had held a time combined the post of Secretary to the Treasury and Secretary to the Cabinet; but this lasted only until 1947, when Sir Norman Brook, who had already been appointed as an additional Secretary to the Cabinet, took over the dual appointment. In 1956, when Sir Edward Bridges retired, two joint Secretaries of the Treasury were appointed; but Sir Norman Brook held one of these posts—that in charge of pay and management and carrying the title of head of the Civil Service—as well as being Secretary of the Cabinet.

Brook himself found this combination too heavy. He was obliged to give priority to his Cabinet Office duties and was always conscious of the fact that he was unable to give enough of his time and effort to the Treasury; and he himself took an active part in

evolving the solution that when he retired there should be three separate posts held by three separate persons—two Joint Secretaries of the Treasury and the Secretary to the Cabinet. When he left, Sir Burke Trend was appointed Secretary to the Cabinet, Sir William Armstrong was appointed to be Joint Permanent Secretary to the Treasury in charge of the finance and expenditure side; and Sir Laurence Halsby (as he then was) was appointed to the third post.

His appointment, involving as it did a direct translation from the Ministry of Labour, caused some surprise in Whitehall. But his career since his first appointment to the Treasury during the war marked him as a strong candidate. He had been made Assistant Secretary in the Treasury at the end of 1944, and at first had been concerned mainly with pay issues; but at the end of 1945 he had been made the first head of a new division set up to deal with new professional classes. In effect therefore he had been in right at the beginning of the post-war development of the main professional classes in the Civil Service, and it was experience he never forgot. In July 1947 he had become Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister (Mr. Attlee), and had held this onerous and responsible post until March 1950, being promoted to Under Secretary in situ in April 1948.

He had left No 10 to become a Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Food, where he had stayed until 1954, and had then become First Civil Service Commissioner. For five years in that post he had been closely involved in problems of recruitment, which was widely thought to be a serious problem in the Service. Persons who held this post had not always gone on to other things, but in 1959 Halsby had been appointed as an additional Secretary to the Ministry of Labour. Here he had been closely involved in questions of "incomes policy" and when he was appointed head of the Service in 1962 it was widely thought in Whitehall, with some justification, that his contribution towards

the setting up of the National Incomes Commission had particularly commended itself to Mr. Mucmillan, the then Prime Minister. For a time after his appointment to the Treasury, he retained a central concern with incomes policy going beyond his responsibilities in the public sector, although this somewhat blurred the definition of his Treasury functions. But his main task was to concern himself with the reorganization of the Service to meet its post-war responsibilities. As explained, Brook had himself always been conscious that much had to be done that was not being done, and was anxious that the high command should be reorganized so that more effort could be devoted to these problems.

For these tasks, Halsby had considerable qualifications. As has been pointed out above, he had a good deal of relevant experience; and in addition he had considerable strengths of character and determination. His strong, craggy face did not belie the man. He was efficient and businesslike in his methods, and was prompt in dealing with correspondence and requests, and always had a clear desk (qualities which had been a matter of pride at No 10). He was thorough, and would never be rushed into sending forward work which had not been meticulously prepared.

Although no orator, he had a

power of clear exposition (no doubt helped by his experience as a lecturer) and both his written and oral work was economically and clearly expressed, leaving no room for ambiguity. Some of his colleagues will remember with particular appreciation the tales which he gave to his fellow Permanent Secretaries summarizing recent developments in the machinery of government.

He kept up his links with the outside world. He also put a good deal of effort into restoring personal contacts between civil servants and leaders of the business world. He felt strongly that the benefits of easy exchanges which had resulted from having businessmen in the public service during the war and temporarily working alongside civil servants were now running out, and that something of value was being lost—and tried to do something about it.

He had an extraordinary memory. One example is that he could recall a good deal about each of the young men and women who had been recruited as Assistant Principals during his time at the Civil Service Commission, and continued to watch with great interest the careers of his "godchildren", as he described them. His meticulous drafting could be carried to a fault, and when involved in a difference of view with Ministers he did not always know when to stop. He always felt handicapped by not having casual and frequent access to successive Prime Ministers, and felt that his relationship with them, and indeed with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was too formal; whereas some of his colleagues in the Service for their part found Halsby himself somewhat unapproachable and not readily sympathetic towards some of their problems. He had no great sense of humour, he did not court publicity, and he did not emerge as a popular and natural leader of the Service.

But there was no doubt about his genuine concern for the Service. There was more than one occasion when he seriously con-

templated resigning because of Ministerial decisions which he felt ran counter to the true interests of the Service. He was acutely conscious of the need to break down vertical barriers between different classes in the Service, and to improve its ability to deal with the more positive, non-regulatory functions which were increasingly falling to its lot, whatever the complexion of the Government in power.

It was not long before he came round to the view that the time was approaching for a fundamental and far ranging examination of the Service, probably by an outside body, and when the Select Committee on Estimates (to which he had given evidence) made recommendations for some kind of investigation, he soon came to the conclusion that the time had now come to recommend to the ministers the setting up of a strong committee of inquiry. He took a main part in setting up the Fulton Committee, and was in full agreement with the decision that it should consist in the main of outsiders, but with a substantial minority of serving Civil Servants. He himself gave evidence to the Committee, on more than one occasion, and was clearly anxious that the Committee should carry out a basic reappraisal of the whole service. He was not still in post in the Treasury to follow up the Committee's findings, but he could claim a large share of the responsibility for getting the postwar reform and organization of the Civil Service at last under way.

In his private life, he took great delight in his family. He met his wife (Wilmet) when he was teaching in Durham; they were married in 1938, and had a son and daughter. Many honours fell to Halsby. He was made a CB in 1950; a KBE in 1955; and a GCB in 1963. In 1968, on his retirement, he was made a Life Peer. While he was head of the Civil Service he was Secretary of the Order of the British Empire, and took an active part in setting up The Queen's Award for Industry.

Second World War he served in the Volunteer Force but was captured and imprisoned by the Japanese from 1942 to 1945. The war over he continued his legal work in the Far East until he went to Kenya in 1951. Here he was Solicitor-General from 1952 to 1955 and from 1955 to 1961 Kenya's Attorney-General and Minister for Legal Affairs. He was Deputy Governor from 1961 to 1963 acting as Governor on numerous occasions. He was chairman of the Rubber Growers' Association from 1970 to 1971 and the next year became Chairman of the Commonwealth Development Corporation. He was appointed CMG in 1957 and created KBE in 1962.

He married, in 1946, Mary Patricia, widow of F. E. Rowland. They had three sons, one of whom died, and one daughter.

SIR GEORGE MALLABY 'Renaissance man' in office

Sir George Mallaby, KCMG, OBE, who died on December 12, 1978 at the age of 78, was a man of varied achievement. An outstanding publicist, teacher and a gifted writer and scholar, he preeminently in his generation deserved to be called a Renaissance Man.

As a boy at Radley and an undergraduate at Merton, his varied talents—from literature to engineering—became apparent. Teaching at St. Edward's, Oxford, and as a headmaster at 33 at St. Bees, he showed a rare gift for imparting knowledge without imposing dryness. His sympathy with adolescents, his wide range of interests, vividly remembered. His interest in education was sustained later by long and influential periods as chairman of the council of Radley and as a governor of St. Edward's.

Efficiency with lightness of touch made him a trusted staff officer dealing with high policy when he served the War Cabinet from 1942 to 1945. He later became a key figure in foreign and defence policy as

an Under-Secretary in the Cabinet Office. In 1954 he went to Kenya to establish Cabinet government there, and after two years at the University Grants Committee he became Sir George, and High Commissioner in New Zealand, where he and his wife made a considerable impact.

His appointment in 1959 as First Civil Service Commissioner, in charge of recruitment to the Civil and Diplomatic Services, was an inspired choice. This was his great contribution to public life. Humanity and humour made him an ideal chairman of those daunting Final Selection Boards, so that many men and women now high in the public service look back on the experience with affection. In his capacity as a Crown Commissioner, he was not at all discouraged when the first—a success with public and reviewers—was absurdly criticized in Whitehall for alleged indiscretion.

Charm, learning borne lightly, efficiency tempered by generosity and humour, care for every individual, an acute sense of the "divine silliness" in life: all these were characteristic of the man. But most important was joy in the love of his family; and his marriage in 1953 to Elizabeth Locker (née Brooke) made his life as happy as it was successful.

His financial knowledge was also put at the service of the government. He was Minister (Economic) at the British Embassy in Washington and Head of the UK Treasury Delegation in the USA from 1954 to 1957. He was also a UK Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and of the International Monetary Fund, from 1954 to 1957. From 1957 to 1959 he was a member of the Radcliffe Committee on the working of the UK's monetary and credit policy and from 1962 to 1964 served on the Plowden Committee on overseas representative services.

He was active in the affairs of the Museum of London in the Barbican and was chairman of the Governors from 1965. He was also a chairman of the Trustees of the Rhodes Trust and of the Oxford Preservation Trust.

During the Second World War he had served with the 63rd (Oxford Yeomanry) AT Regiment, Royal Artillery, and on the Staff and was made CBE in 1945. He was created KBE in 1957.

He married, in 1931, Hon. Maud Elizabeth Grosvenor, a daughter of 4th Baron Ebury, DSO, MC. There were three daughters, one now dead, of the marriage which was dissolved in 1942. He married, secondly, in 1946, Elizabeth Sonja, widow of Captain Lionel Gibbs and daughter of Sir Harold Sneggs, KBE. She died in 1959.

Viscount Harcourt

Viscount Harcourt, KCMG, OBE, who was chairman of the Legal and General Assurance Society Ltd from 1958 to 1977, died on January 3 at the age of 70.

William Edward Harcourt was born on October 5, 1908, the son of the 1st Viscount. He was educated at Eton, where he was when he succeeded his father in 1922, and at Christ Church, Oxford. Much of his subsequent life was spent in finance. He was Managing Director of Morgan Grenfell, merchant bankers, from 1931 to 1968, and chairman from 1968 to 1973 and his other major

chairmanship was that of Legal and General.

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Sir Eric Griffith-Jones

Sir Eric Griffith-Jones, who died on February 13 at the age of 65, had been chairman of the Commonwealth Development Corporation since 1972 and prior to that had served in the colonial service. Latterly in Kenya where he was Acting Governor-General in the years before independence.

Educated at Cheltenham College, he was called to the Bar at Gray's Inn in 1934 and entered the colonial legal services, serving as Advocate and Solicitor, Straits Settlement and F.M.S., and as a Crown Counsel in Singapore. During the

Second World War he served in the Volunteer Force but was captured and imprisoned by the Japanese from 1942 to 1945. The war over he continued his legal work in the Far East until he went to Kenya in 1951. Here he was Solicitor-General from 1952 to 1955 and from 1955 to 1961 Kenya's Attorney-General and Minister for Legal Affairs. He was Deputy Governor from 1961 to 1963 acting as Governor on numerous occasions. He was chairman of the Rubber Growers' Association from 1970 to 1971 and the next year became Chairman of the Commonwealth Development Corporation. He was appointed CMG in 1957 and created KBE in 1962.

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Obituaries Supplement

Links with culture and education

SIR THOMAS KENDRICK
Keeper of British Museum

Sir Thomas Kendrick, KCB, FBA, FSA, who was Director and Principal Librarian of the British Museum from 1950 to 1958, died on November 2.

Thomas Kendrick was born in 1895. He went to Charterhouse, where he was on the classical side, and then to Oriel College, Oxford. He had been up for only a year when the war came and he immediately enlisted; he returned in 1918 and took a diploma in anthropology with distinction. His war service saw him as a captain in the Warwickshire Regiment. He was severely wounded in the leg and arm but never afterwards allowed his lameness to interfere with an active life or a passion for fishing.

He joined the Department of British and Medieval Antiquities of the British Museum after the war and became its Keeper in 1938. At that time he was much interested in museum display and introduced innovations in the use of colour, transparent mountings and other modern techniques. At the same time he was among the first scholars to make full use of colour photography; his splendid slides of Anglo-Saxon jewellery, for example, were much admired.

His learned and austere

It was fortunate that the magnificent Anglo-Saxon treasure from Sutton Hoo came to the department during his curatorship. Although it arrived in 1945 in time to be immediately returned to the public, Kendrick was responsible for its fine post-war display.

When, however, he was appointed Director and Principal Librarian of the Museum in 1950, his policy was conservative. He was not attracted by the revolutionary movements that were turning many Continental and American museums into centres of popular enlightenment. Rather, he preferred to keep to the tradition of Bloomsbury as an institution maintained first and foremost for scholars and connoisseurs. Nevertheless, during the decade he was in command there, the Museum continued a slow emergence from its wartime plight and became a pleasant, more enjoyable place to visit.

In the scope of his interests Tom Kendrick belonged to the eighteenth century rather than the twentieth. His books covered an extraordinary range of subjects between Eoliths and the Lisbon earthquake. Nor did he avoid such bitterly controversial matters as the history and meaning of Druidism. His

early responsibilities at Bloomsbury included the history and the prehistoric antiquities, but a growing distaste for what he called the stones and bones of archaeology led him towards later periods.

His greatest and most lasting enthusiasm was for Anglo-Saxon art and its relationship with that of Roman and Celtic Britain. There as elsewhere his ideas sometimes proved wrong but were always seminal. Among other enterprises in this field he conducted a survey of stone crosses and was probably never happier than when in the company of a few kindred spirits in the study of the country in pursuit of these and other more obscure remains of Anglo-Saxon sculpture. This work and the provocative opinions he expressed on it found expression in *Anglo-Saxon Art to A.D. 900* (1938) and *Anglo-Saxon and Viking Art* (1949).

Another realm of study that had a great appeal to Kendrick's brilliant but slightly wayward imagination was early Antiquarianism. His interest here covered all Europe, but in particular he was fascinated by the medieval legends which told of the settlement of Britain by the Celts and the doings of King Arthur. The



later embroideries added to this legend and its involvement with Tudor patriotism made the theme of one of the most delightful of his books—*British Antiquity*. After this the psychological and religious outcome of the Lisbon earthquake suddenly seized upon his mind and obsessed him until he had published the story as he saw it.

It was characteristic of the man that while he moved from subject to subject, probably hoping to shock scholars and scientists of the narrower kind, he always devoted the whole of

himself to the new quest. Travelling, reading and writing with total preoccupation, as he was a gifted writer and speaker full of sparkle and imagination, he was able to share his enthusiasm with an eager audience. Among his later books was a novel *Great Love for Icarus* (1962), a graceful story about boyhood.

In middle life he came to know a number of painters and their friends; this, perhaps, was the society he most enjoyed. For a time, too, he was caught up with the fashion for the Victorian taste, the opportunist of a relative enabling him to furnish a part of his house with curious Victoriana. Among his more idiosyncratic tastes was the collecting of bus tickets. He was clubbable rather than domestic, but his normal charming sociability was subject to occasional reactions when he might quickly give offence.

Kendrick was a fellow of the British Academy and of the Society of Antiquaries, an honorary fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, and had received honorary degrees from Durham, Oxford and Dublin. He married Helen Kiek, an excellent pianist, and after her death in 1955, Katharine Wrigley. He was a devoted father by his first marriage.

EARL OF ROSSE
National Trust and charities

The Earl of Rosse, KBE, died on July 1, at the age of 72. As someone wrote "he maintained his ancestors' distinctive absence from the Irish sporting field; he neither rode, nor fished, nor shot, but his contribution to various branches of culture and the preservation of old and beautiful things and the creation of new ones was not slight. One of his forebears, the third earl, was a distinguished astronomer and sometime President of the Royal Society, the fourth was also an FRS and his younger brother was Sir Charles Parsons, OM, FRS, inventor of the steam turbine.

The late Earl—the sixth—gave a great deal of his time to the activities of such bodies as the Standing Commission on the Environment and the National Council for the Preservation of the Environment. He was also a member of the Council in 1948; in 1949 he was elected a member of the historic buildings committee and in 1955 on the retirement of Lord Esher, he became its chairman. He guided it with a sure knowledge of the Trust's aims and purposes and a clear understanding of its integrity. When as a result of the changes brought about by the Benson Report he took over in 1969 the chairmanship of the newly

constituted properties committee, comprising elements of the former historic buildings and estates committees, he was by his knowledge of gardens, of woodlands and of estate management as ideally suited to guide it as he was to lead the more architecturally orientated historic buildings committee.

The Trust owes much to his skill as a mediator. He was ideally equipped for dealing with the government officials and local councillors with whom the Trust often has relations and on occasion finds itself at odds. His manner was conciliatory, persuasive and firm and his background was impeccable. When war broke out in 1939, Lord Rosse joined the Irish Guards and later served in the Normandy campaign with the Guards' Armoured Division, being made MBE in 1943. With Colonel E. R. Hill he was the author of *The Story of the Guards' Armoured Division* 1941-45.

He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dublin from 1949 to 1963 and since that year Pro-Chancellor. He was an honorary FRIBA, and honorary LL.D. of the universities of Belfast and Dublin and a member of many learned societies, both in Ireland and abroad. He was KBE in 1974 for services to the arts.

He proved to be a man of the strongest and soundest convictions, founded as they were upon his love of the Scriptures and his deep appreciation of the Bible as the supreme guide and authority for life. It was no wonder that in a little under ten years from his ordination he was appointed Clerical Assistant Secretary of the Church of Ireland Society, later becoming General Secretary, guiding the Society through the upheavals and difficulties of the years of the Second World War and beyond.

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Dame Kitty Anderson

Dame Kitty Anderson, DBE, who was Head Mistress of the North London Collegiate School from 1944 to 1963, died on January 15 at the age of 75. The daughter of a chartered accountant, Kitty Anderson was born on July 4, 1903, and educated at the High School for Girls, Saltburn-by-the-Sea. Subsequently she entered the Royal Holloway College, where she took her BA degree in history. Choosing teaching as a career, she spent six years on the staff of Burlington School, London, before becoming Mistress of Kings Norton Girls' Grammar School, in Birmingham. Here she spent five years, then she was appointed Head Mistress of North London Collegiate School in 1944. Here she upheld the traditions of the school founded by Frances Buss in 1850, watchful for its standards, but also careful to nurture a more relaxed family atmosphere in which the talents and capacities of individual girls were catered for.

She was created DBE for her work in education in 1961 but her retirement four years later was a busy one. From 1965 to 1975 she was chairman of the Girls' Public Day School Trust and became president of the Schoolmistresses' & Governesses' Benevolent Institution in 1972. Her advice on education was much sought and she served on a number of government committees including the Committee on Higher Education which recommended the massive expansion in university education which took place in the 1960s.

Dame Kitty was a Fellow of the Colleges of Preceptors and had honorary degrees from Hull and York universities besides her London PhD.

Mr Charles Fisher, Headmaster of Geelong Church of England Grammar School in Victoria, Australia, died in a car accident near Kanaburra, north of Melbourne. He was 57. The 3rd son of the late Lord Fisher of Lambeth, formerly Archbishop of Canterbury, Charles Douglas Fisher was educated at Marlborough and Keble College, Oxford.

He was an Assistant Master at Harrow from 1948 to 1955 and Senior Master at Peterhouse, Rhodesia, from 1955 to 1961. After a further year at Sherborne he went to Adelaide as Headmaster of Scotch College, from 1961 to 1969. He was Headmaster of the Church of England Grammar School, Brisbane, from 1970 to 1973 and was appointed Headmaster of Geelong Grammar School in 1974.

He married in 1952, Anne Gilmore, nee Hammond. They had four sons and two daughters.

PROFESSOR I. A. RICHARDS
'New criticism' from Cambridge

Professor I. A. Richards, CH, who died on September 7 at the age of 86, was a central figure in the revolution in the teaching of English at Cambridge in the 1920s from which much of what is called the "New Criticism" ultimately derives. One of his books, *Practical Criticism*, gave a name to a teaching method (the informal examination of unsigned texts in discussion groups) now fundamental in schools and universities in all English-speaking countries, and also to a method of close textual analysis employed by many modern critics of poetry. The range of Richards' interests was, however, much wider and more speculative than such a statement might suggest. These interests included mountaineering, classical Chinese philosophy, simple methods of practical language teaching, including Basic English (of which, with C. K. Ogden, he was the author), the scientific, world view to the poetic imagination, the psychological bases of the enjoyment of art, the wider and deeper problems of language and meaning. Yet it might be said that Richards' central interest, in a busy and useful life, was in teaching the intelligent appreciation of poetry and that his own blossoming out as a poet, in his staves, was a fitting and happy climax to a busy and useful life.

Born on February 26, 1893, in Cheshire, Ivor Armstrong Richards was educated at Clifton and at Magdalene College, Cambridge, of which he was to become a fellow in 1926. Perhaps the most important event of his early Cambridge years was his meeting with the remarkable polymath, C. K. Ogden, who encouraged the younger man to explore the fascinating and debatable land where psychology, criticism, and literature meet. In a sense, Richards had the mind of a philosopher but at a time when the main tendency of philosophy (as in

the early Wittgenstein, whom Richards knew well and disliked) was severely analytic, Richards was essentially a synthesizer, or a builder of bridges between traditionally separate disciplines. His first two books, *The Foundations of Aesthetics*, 1921, and *The Meaning of Meaning*, 1923, both written in collaboration (the latter along with C. K. Ogden) have a kind of common, indestructible richness, a suggestive rather than definitive. But they contain root ideas some of which were later to be developed by other writers along narrower, if clearer, lines. Richards' first individual work, *Principles of Literary Criticism*, attempts to base critical evaluation, or literary values, on what at first looks like a rather mechanical theory of psychology, the psyche as seen as an elaborately balanced mechanism responding to innumerable outward stimuli, and a good poem is one which creates balance both felt as satisfactory in itself and leaving the psyche alert to new stimuli.

There was something of the same apparent crudity in the brilliantly written short pamphlet, *Science and Poetry* (1925). This rests on the assumption that science presents us with a neutral universe and that therefore the greater statements of poetry must be "emotive" rather than "referential"; they tell us not that all is well, or ill, with the world, but that all is well or ill with the poet's nervous system. The incidental criticism in both books, particularly in the appendix to *Principles of Literary Criticism*, the astonishing pioneer appreciation of *The Waste Land*—seemed often much subtler than the theory allowed for. In later years, Richards used regretfully to refer to *Science and Poetry* as a "fixative" rather than a "developer" and to *Principles of Literary Criticism* as a "sermon", using the language of psychology as in an earlier age it might have used the language of religion or philo-

sophical idealism. But Richards' later theories of language and of the psychology of appreciation, rather than the speculative particularism of *Practical Criticism* (1926), were, if subtler and more profound, to grow and had therefore less immediate impact. Close friends had the impression that, in later years, though never deserting the disciplines of science, he no longer thought of the soul as a machine or of the universe as neutral. The Coleridgean strain in his character, a strain grandly speculative and at times almost mystical, had ousted largely, the Benthamite strain derived from Ogden.

In 1926, Richards married Miss Dorothy Pitt who survives him. Though there were no children, this was an ideally happy marriage, for Mrs Richards shared all her husband's interests, including especially his passion for climbing. The years of the 1930s, when Richards became a fellow of Magdalene College, but his teaching at Cambridge was soon interrupted by a trip to Peking as a visiting professor, between 1929 and 1930. This visit produced Richards' most fascinating book, *Venues in the Mind*. The serenity and the faith in the basic human impulses of classical Confucianism made a very personal appeal to Richards. Before leaving Cambridge, he had, however, completed his masterpiece, *Practical Criticism* (1929): based on the critical notes of groups of Cambridge students on sets of unsigned poems. This is a pioneer examination of the common errors committed even by the very intelligent in attempting to poems, and some of its findings, like the idea of the "stock response" and the distinction between the sense, tone, feeling and intention of poems, have become common currency. *Interpretation in Teaching* applies a similar approach to the examination of prose passages, but in *Coleridge on the Imagination*—both these

books belong to the 1930s—some critics, notably the late Dr F. R. Leavis, found a speculative vagueness and a certain fundamental easiness. Richards made a return visit to China in the late 1930s and in 1939 accepted a post as a lecturer in English at Harvard. A popular work on Basic English published in 1943 might be considered as war work.

Richards was now settled during the university working year in America where he was professor at Harvard until 1963, but in the vacations, and during the war, he regularly revisited England and Switzerland, and travelled further afield, to Japan and China. In 1964 he was made a Companion of Honour.

The practical side of his mind came out in his sponsoring of a series of text-books on the simplified learning of languages, rather than Basic English lines. He was much consulted by official bodies on language-teaching problems, and perhaps partly for this reason his later books of theory, *How to Read a Page* (1942) and *Speculative Instruments* (1955) are suggestive rather than thorough. Subsequent books of collected Poetries (1975) and *Complementaries* (1977), both collections of essays, and *Beyond* (1975) a study of diety in the Hellenic-Hebraic traditions.

The great interest of his later years, however, was in the writing of poems and plays, and he was delighted at the enthusiastic reception of the two volumes of poems, *The Screens* (1960) and *Good-Bye, Earth* (1963) in particular by younger poets like the late Robert Lowell. He expressed this pleasure in conversation with an almost boyish simplicity, and this simplicity in fact was a keynote of his character. Young poets—he had a great gift for attracting these—who approached him with some trepidation, were delighted to find that, superficially, at least, he resembled Mr Pickwick.

Senior Editor of Italian Studies

In his own writing he was a historian rather than a critic of literature. His turn was for the concrete, not abstract philosophy, and he was inclined to be impatient of the intellectual. He loved ferreting out facts of the past. The range of his output stretched from Dante and the Renaissance to the present, but his main contribution was to knowledge of the lives and works of Italian exiles in Britain in the early nineteenth century. *Gabriele Rossetti in England* (1936), and *Ugo Foscolo: An English Exile* (1953), which was translated into Italian, were his chief works. He became one of the best known "foscolisti", and later threw light also on the life of the dramatist Alfieri. He retired in 1962, his collaborators, friends and former pupils honoured him with a volume of *Italian Studies*.

From the Italian Government he received a "Commedia al merito della Repubblica". He was a devoted diplomat almost as much as a scholar, and he represented his country at conferences in Italy and to give parties for visiting Italian lecturers. He was Joint-President in 1959 of the Associazione Italiana di Studi Italiani.

During the Second World War he did valuable service at the Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, eventually with a roving commission to report to central authorities.

It brought him the CBE and incidental visits to America. Undeterred by the blackout, he went out dancing on many evenings, and as Chairman of the Club, he catered for the large numbers of his fellow-workers he did much to keep them cheerful.

Though not bred a Corpus man, "Vinea" was he called, yielded to none in loyalty. He was a man to whom who had somehow found himself in academic groves. He was invaluable on committees that dealt, for instance, with wine or redecoration of the hall or revision of the constitution; and as President his genius for hospitality had full scope. The time of his retirement coincided with many changes in the College staff, and he nobly took on for a transitional term the arduous duties of a Cambridge Senior Tutor.

He was yet to publish, in 1966, under the title *Things I Remember*, a collection of memories of Agostino's life in Italy. In the same year he was awarded the Italian Gold Medal for Benemeriti della Cultura dell'Arte, and in 1973 the British Academy's Serena Medal for Italian Studies.

Canon T. G. Mohan

Canon Talbot Greaves Mohan, who died on January 10 at the age of 83, was an outstanding church leader. The influence of his ministry also extended beyond the borders of this country. He was a most welcome visitor to Australia and was appointed in 1936 an honorary Canon of Sidney Cathedral.

At Oxford Mohan had played no mean part in the foundation and establishment of the Oxford University Bible Union (now the OICBU). Ordained in 1923, he began his long and successful ministry at the Parish Church of Islington. He was an assiduous visitor and established a lifelong reputation for showing generous appreciation of the work of others whilst forgetful of his own. He quickly began to make his mark as a potential leader, not least among the Evangelists of his day.

Mr C. Fisher

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Mr A. Chenevix-Trench

Mr Anthony Chenevix-Trench, who was headmaster of Eton from 1964 to 1970, and in 1971 headmaster of Eton College, Edinburgh, died on June 21 at the age of 60. He was born on May 10, 1910, and was educated at Shrewsbury School and Christ Church, Oxford. He served in Malaya during the second World War and was captured in Singapore in 1942, pending the remainder of the war in captivity. In 1948 he became an assistant master at Shrewsbury and in 1955 was appointed headmaster of Eton. He was a member of the Robbins Committee on Higher Education from 1961. His stewardship of Eton was marked by the abolition of a number of traditions including the compulsory Sunday Chapel and the Eton collar and jacket, again as a compulsory scholarship subject was another casualty of his period of rule. He retired from the post in 1970. He married in 1953 Elizabeth Halmer, a daughter of Captain Sir Stewart Spicer, Bt. They had two sons and two daughters.

Sir Peter Venables

Sir Peter Venables, FRIC, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Aston from 1966 to 1969, died on the 17 at the age of 74.

His career mapped several ages in the recent development of advanced technological education in Britain. A chemist by training, with a first class degree from the University of Liverpool, he held a series of posts in major technical colleges in the 1930s before becoming, in 1941, principal of the Municipal College, Southend, from there he moved to be principal of the Royal Technical College, Saltford (now the University of Salford) before taking up his post at the Birmingham College of Technology (which in 1956) was designated the College of Advanced Technology. Ten years later, following the Robbins Report, the A.T. achieved university status and the Birmingham College received its Royal Charter as a University of Aston.

Peter Venables did more than tend in the wake of the traditions he served; he was a visionary among his professional colleagues; cautious, resourceful and ambitious, but was concerned for the larger implications of policy, and for the development of technical education as a whole as well as the particular institution in which he happened to be situated. He was a leading member of the Council of the Association of Technical Institutions and President in 1953-54, when important national decisions were being taken about technical education.

He maintained a consistent commitment to applied science and "useful" education, and believed that this was best served by giving colleges, most of which came directly under the control of local authorities, as maximum autonomy compatible with their public service role.

In 1969 he took on the chairmanship of the Planning Committee for the Open University, co-opting from Lady Lee of Sherridge what, at that stage,

was regarded as the risky assignment of turning a brilliant idea into a practical reality. He undertook the task from conviction no less than duty, seeing the Open University as the only institution performing functions once restricted to night schools and mechanics institutes.

He went on to become Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Council of the Open University (from 1969-71) and Secretary of the OU Committee on Continuing Education which reported in 1976 on ways in which the work of the Open University could be extended.

His other interests and responsibilities extended to adult education, scientific and manpower policy, and broadcasting. He married in 1932 Dr Ethel Craig Howell. They had two sons and two daughters.

Dr Alfred Emden

Dr A. B. Emden, Principal of St Edmund Hall, Oxford from 1929 to 1951, died on January 8 at the age of 90. Alfred Brotherson Emden was born in 1888, the son of Judge Alfred Emden, of the High School, Canterbury, he went as a Scholar to Lincoln College, Oxford, where he obtained a second in History in 1911. He then joined the Inner Temple, but shortly afterwards was "called" to the Bar. Instead, however, of a "characteristic social urge, he became head of a boarding-house in Sydenham for boys with unsatisfactory "backgrounds".

In 1914 he joined the Naval Brigade and on its disbandment transferred to the RNVR. For the rest of the war he mainly served as an AB in a North Sea destroyer.

On demobilisation he was appointed history tutor and bursar at St Edmund Hall, Oxford, and for more than 30 years thereafter the Hall remained his absorbing interest and the scene of his immensely successful administrative activity. In 1920 he became Vice-Principal, and from 1929 to 1951, was Principal. In those years the Hall ceased to be a tiny community, little more than a cluster of buildings, and came to rival the colleges in numbers, academic and sporting successes, and also in prestige. It was Emden who lay behind this expansion. The successful history tutor and bursar who then infused the place, derived directly from him. Simultaneously he was rebuilding the Hall's finances, restoring its buildings, and incorporating and erecting new standards among the undergraduates. In 1937 he succeeded in getting two important statutes approved: one transferring the site and the appointment of the principal from Queen's College, which had held it since the sixteenth century, to trustees, and the other giving the Hall a new constitution, which, while more liberal than the one it superseded, deliberately stopped short of collegiate status.

Though a great Principal Emden did not confine his interests to the Hall. For long he was a leading member of both the Hebdomadal Council and the Oxford Preservation Trust, and he also served actively on the governing bodies of four public schools. He was also keenly concerned with boys' clubs and youth work, and organising unemployed miners' camps. At the same time, as well as being a stimulating teacher, he had developed as a considerable historian, with his medieval studies at his field. His *An Oxford Hall in Medieval Times* (1927) remains indispensable as a thorough investigation of the early Oxford system. It discards earlier theories that medieval univer-

sity halls were voluntary associations of students grouped under a principal of their own election. Instead it shows that the halls originated in the enterprise of graduates who received students in their own establishments, and so protected them from exploitation by lodging-house keepers. His article on the Hall in the *Victoria History of Oxfordshire* (1954) valuably complemented the book. In 1936, in collaboration with St Maurice Powicks, he produced a masterly revision of Rashdall's classic *Medieval Universities*.

During the Second World War Emden helped to found naval courses for Oxford undergraduates and in 1943 he was made the first commanding officer of the OU Naval Division. The strain of these heavy wartime duties had a delayed effect, and in 1951 illness compelled him to resign the Principalship. After retirement, however, his health returned, though his heart continued to give trouble. The main achievement of the retirement years was the compilation of a *Biographical Register* (1957-74) of Oxford alumni before 1541, a formidable work containing over 15,000 obituaries. This was succeeded in 1963 by a similar register of Cambridge clerics.

Emden was an Honorary Fellow of Lincoln College and St Edmund Hall, an Hon D Litt of Oxford, an Hon LL.D. of Cambridge, and a Fellow of the British Academy. His personality was forceful and impressive, with the strength which

comes from the conviction of rightness. As an administrator he neither delegated nor yielded easily, with the result that his colleagues, while always respecting him, often found his autocratic style constraining. Yet his bearing was gracious and full of courtesy, and he was singularly high-minded and selfless. He was generous to several institutions, particularly the Hall and St Edmund's School, Oxford, and the former marked its gratitude by bestowing his name on one of the new blocks erected in the late 1960s. Always, perhaps, remote and austere, he understood and sympathized with youth, and few contemporary Oxford heads can have been so revered by their undergraduates. A man of strong views who always seemed to know his own mind, he was much consulted by others—scholars, headmasters, social workers, and not least for he was a devout Churchman—advisers on ecclesiastical appointments.

He was unmarried.

Professor Eric Vincent

Professor Eric R. P. Vincent, CBE, who died last December at the age of 84, had been a member of the First Class in the School of Modern and Medieval Lan-

guage of Cambridge from 1935 to 1962, a period nearly twice as long as the combined tenure of his three predecessors, and had been a Fellow of Corpus Christi College since 1938. President from 1954 to 1959, he was born on December 10, 1894. Several of his forebears had been noted for music. His father, Charles Vincent, held the Oxford doctorate, being organist, composer, conductor and teacher. He himself was destined for the piano trade, and after a not particularly distinguished career at Berkhamsted School worked for a year in a Camden Town factory, before being sent in the spring of 1914 to the Steel Works at Gotha. There he was overtaken by the First World War, which he spent with some four thousand others in Ruhleben camp. It was here that he began to develop, and he acknowledged that he owed everything to Matthew Stuart Prichard, to the stimulus of his talk and to his Circle Italian. The first book they read was the *Divine Comedy*, and they read it three times, taking a canto each in turn for translation and comment. Vincent's Italian pronunciation was learnt from an Italian-Arabic-Maltese opera singer. By the end of the war he had forgotten about music—indeed he almost reacted against it: Italian was to be his passion for life.

On his release he went up to Christ Church, studied with gusto under Cesare Fallaga, and was duly placed in the First Class in the School of Modern and Medieval Lan-

guage. In 1922 he was appointed Lecturer in Italian at King's College, London, and in the following year he married Ivy, daughter of Lt-Col W. Barrow-Simmons. Reckoning that marriage was a full-time occupation, he promptly gave up his job. They lived an idyllic life in the country, feeding off the land and playing hockey with walking-sticks in the lanes. But by 1927 he was back on more conventional rails as Lecturer in Italian at Oxford, where he remained until 1934, when, on the strength of articles, reviews and editing rather than any major work of scholarship, he was elected Professor at Cambridge. The small department he took over became under him one of the main centres of Italian studies in Britain. First and foremost he was a teacher, an enthusiast whose lectures were always popular and whose guidance of research students was formative. Many of those now teaching Italian in this country were initiated by him in their approach to literary research. But his influence extended far beyond academic circles, notably through the Society for Italian Studies, of which he was a co-founder in 1937 and Chairman from 1945. He nursed this society till it was well established, and was a moving spirit in the International Congress held at Cambridge in 1953, in summer schools and conferences for teachers, and in the pamphlet *The Place of Italian in British Education*. He was also for sixteen years



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AN ALTERNATIVE GOVERNMENT

the most banal statement about Mrs Thatcher's government is that the most important: she will either succeed or fail. We hope she will succeed, not only because the success of any government must be in the national interest but because her government's market approach to the economic problems is necessary to balance the excessive movement to socialism in a postwar period.

It is certainly too early to tell whether her policies will be successful or not. That will be assessed in terms of unemployment, the rates of inflation, levels of taxation in years to come. If she does succeed then we will not doubt win the next general Election and national politics will follow a mainly Conservative course in the 1980s. The Lady Macbeth, though in a later cause, Mrs Thatcher, believes that the best answer to the question: "if we should fail" is "screw your courage to the sticking place and we'll not fail".

At the heart of her policy, as an entirely prudent answer Lady Macbeth, her last for Mrs Thatcher, and it would be a very poor answer indeed if it were offered by *The Times*. It is sensible to look at the alternatives.

In his essence is what Mr Roy Jenkins did in his Dimsdale Lecture last night. There is a real choice between the failure of the Thatcher government and the success of the Labour government.

It is not reasonable to expect that the Labour Party could achieve that majority on their own. If it is to be done at all it must be done by some coalition of the centre and that would have to come into existence before and not after the General Election. The coalition must put an agreed programme to the electorate. This would be an effective form of the "radical centre" to which Mr Jenkins referred.

A coalition of the centre could well win an election outright. It is a fact which has de-

veloped such influence in the trade unions, and in the Labour Party has the support of only a small minority of the electorate. Its power in the Labour Party is gained by packing small committee meetings by intrigue and by the use of block votes which in no way represent the real wishes of the individual voters. It is not democracy; it is manipulation.

The obvious way to remove this danger is to change to a system of proportional representation. If Britain had any of the normal forms of proportional representation, there would be no danger of a Marxist government being formed because there is absolutely no danger of a Marxist majority. We should therefore be safe from the most damaging political event that could at present happen to us. Some Conservatives are in favour of this but the Prime Minister is resolutely against it, and has the backing of her party. It is indeed the worst defect in her position: it amounts to saying that it is so important to have a Conservative government that Britain must take the risk of having a Marxist government emerge as the alternative.

So long as the Conservatives take this view, the only way to reach proportional representation is to return a majority of Labour to the House of Commons. Those who are committed to it. It is not reasonable to expect that the Labour Party could achieve that majority on their own. If it is to be done at all it must be done by some coalition of the centre and that would have to come into existence before and not after the General Election. The coalition must put an agreed programme to the electorate. This would be an effective form of the "radical centre" to which Mr Jenkins referred.

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Accountability of the NEB

From Lord Boyd-Carpenter

Sir, The question posed in the last paragraph of your leading article today (November 22) as to whether the Board of the National Enterprise Board or officials of the Department of Industry provide the worse method of monitoring Rolls-Royce is an embarrassing question to call "a good question". But you seek to justify your marginal preference for the former by suggesting that "the NEB is openly accountable".

This is less true than it might be. For despite demands in both Houses of Parliament, the previous Government refused to submit the accounts of the NEB to examination by the Public Accounts Committee. The spending of very large sums of public money was therefore not subjected to scrutiny on behalf of Parliament in the way most public expenditure is. (And the situation was made worse by the observation attributed to the NEB's then Chairman that responsibility to a Minister seemed to him to be the same as responsibility to Parliament.)

Putting one Board (that of the NEB) on top of the Board responsible for a company is not only calculated to produce confusion but leaves unanswered the question of effective supervision of the NEB Board's actions. Or to complete your quotation: "Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?"

I am your obedient servant who is particularly glad to see you back, BOYD-CARPENTER, House of Lords, November 22.

Jury vetting

From Professor Colonel G. I. A. D. Draper

Sir, In their article under this title, in your issue of the 19th Miss Harman and Mr Sedley contend that the present system of jury vetting is a "statute of 1305" (also see your editorial, November 20). They are referring to the practice of the prosecution in a criminal trial of asking jurors to whom they object to sit on the jury. In support, they rely upon a "statute of 1305", in these terms: "If they that sue for the king will challenge any of those jurors they shall assign a cause certain, and the truth of the same challenge shall be inquired of according to the custom of the court."

This so-called "statute" is none other than our old friend the "Ordinance for Inquests" ordained by the King and his Council long after all the statutes of the realm had gone home from the Parliament by Edward I on February 16, 1305.

It is of this "Ordinance for Inquests" that Professor Maitland wrote his famous legal essay *De Memoranda Parliamentaria* in which he stated: "Such an ordinance was beneath the dignity of the statute roll, and we should have great difficulty in proving that it had the assent of the king, and was a concession by the king, and the king's ordinance power would easily cover the making of such a concession." (Maitland's *Essays*, p. 32).

In fact, the year 1305 was not, for various reasons, much of a year for statutes at all on any subject, let alone on the challenging of jurors by the Crown. The language of the Ordinance is general and in no way purports to be dealing specifically with the trial of criminals before petty juries.

Thus, with respect to the two writers of the article, what is in doubt is not the legality of the modern practice of "stand by for the Crown" in criminal trials, but the legality of the "statute" of 1305 upon which they rely for the illegality of that practice.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, G. I. A. D. DRAPER, 16 Southover High Street, Lewes, Sussex, November 20.

From Mr Charles Rogers

Sir, In your leader "Nearly random juries" (November 20) you advocate the introduction of a basic literacy and comprehension test for prospective jurors. The dangers of accepting this seemingly innocuous proposal are legion. The basic principle behind a jury system is that the trial should be judged by a randomly selected panel of jurors representing society as a whole. Any limitation of the pool from which jurors are drawn, whether on the basis of "intelligence", race, religion or political persuasion, makes a total mockery of this principle.

Furthermore, how would one prevent the required level of attainment to achieve a "pass" from being raised to a level which would effectively restrict the selection of jurors to one small elite section of society?

Once such a proposal is allowed to gain respectability, it is only a small step to introducing intelligence tests for the right to vote, and therefore effectiveness in any claim that we may still be able to make to being a model of parliamentary democracy.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES ROGERS, 6 Almond Close, Gosspops Green, Crawley, West Sussex, November 20.

'Panorama' in Ulster

From Mr John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest (Conservative)

Sir, Mr Peter Taylor (November 21) takes pride in filming the IRA and, with some arrogance, compares his activities to the regretted meetings between Ministers of the Crown and IRA men. A "fourth estate" indeed.

Terrorism lives by publicity and languishes without it. Those who have made sensational programmes out of the IRA should indeed set their house in order.

Your obedient servant, JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON, House of Commons, November 21.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Professor Blunt and patriotism

From Professor Eric Burhop, FRS

Sir, I can only assume that the great mass of superficial and uninformed comment about Cambridge in the 1930s that has followed the publication of *The Climate of Treason* and the trial by press, television and radio of Anthony Blunt must be attributed to the age and lack of historical perspective of the commentators. They have evidently neither lived through nor comprehended the social pressures of the period.

Incidentally, as a Cambridge research student of this period, it seems strange to me that nobody has referred to the notorious Oxford Union resolution, passed with a large majority in 1933, "That this House will in no circumstances fight for its King and Country". Clearly our great sister educational institution was afflicted with the same malaise.

The great depression of the 1930s had eaten deep into the whole social fabric. Huge unemployment, malnutrition, the dole, means test, hunger marches—these were the realities of the time. Clearly the conventional capitalist market economy had failed and it is not surprising that the brightest spirits in our universities were looking to the East for a new social order. Some towards financial quirk like social credit, but many more toward Marxist solutions.

Earnest groups of young students, and by no means just students of economics, were discussing the labour theory of value, reading the classic works of Marx and Engels and their simplified, if superficial, popularisations such as John Strachey's *The Coming Struggle for Power*.

The Oxford Union resolution, which caused such shivers to run down the spine of the Establishment, was one way of warning that society which could not provide a minimum of opportunity or subsistence standards for very large numbers of its people was hardly worth defending. Naturally there was some interest in the Soviet Union, which was attempting to build a society based on a different, Marxist economic system.

The rise of Nazism was itself a direct result of the obvious insufficiency and worldwide collapse of the market economy. The persecution and exodus from Nazi Germany of many of the greatest intellectual figures of our time naturally had a maximum impact in our universities. Nazism appeared the most evil thing any of us had seen.

Our own Government, under Neville Chamberlain, seemed hell-bent on appeasing Hitler. The press and radio applauded Munich with almost the same unanimity and lack of historic analysis as they have applauded the past few days in the Blunt affair. During the period between 1935 and August, 1939, the only force that stood staunchly against Nazism, and seemed capable of offering effective resistance to it and its aims in Spain, Austria and Czechoslovakia, was the Soviet Union and its Red Army.

This is in no way intended to be an apology for Blunt, Burgess, Maclean or anybody else recruited into the Soviet espionage system. Whatever their motivations, their actions, in the long run, have done immense harm, including especially harm to the building of détente and East-West understanding in the postwar world, which is the essential basis on which a stable peace must ultimately be built.

Churchill once said that the purpose of going over the past is to draw lessons for the future. Once again the world is facing severe economic depression. It is profoundly to be hoped that the Government will take note and avoid

economic policies that could generate the social divisiveness that was the real background to the events of the 1930s.

Yours faithfully, ERIC BURHOP, 206 Gilbert House, Barbican, EC2, November 21.

From Mr Correll Barnett

Sir, With regard to Blunt, we should remember that the 1920s and 1930s marked a high tide of romantic idealism, or high-minded priggishness, among the public-school-educated British elite. Common-room Communism was not the only form of mandarin prize-assery to flourish: there were the League of Nations Union, the Peace Pledge Union, the Anglo-German Group and the Anglo-American "Link", and numerous other groups or ad-hoc committees devoted to various "good causes". There was "Bloomsbury": E. M. Forster as the grand guru of intellectual well-being.

A web of personal relationships and inter-connecting memberships linked the different sects into what may fairly be described as "the Establishment". Blunt and Co. having pushed romantic idealism to the point of treachery, simply take the cigar as the priestess of most misguided asses of them all.

Yours sincerely, CORRELL BARNETT, Churchill College, Cambridge.

From Mr Nicholas Walter

Sir, I wish to protest against the leading article about the case of Anthony Blunt (November 22). The "unfavourable" of particular type of historical idealism, which claims to be in favour of market forces and therefore surely of the survival of the best in fair competition, going to destroy, or at best to emasculate, some of our finest institutions by sustaining the same egalitarianism in its retrenchment policies? The time has come to be carefully and purposefully selective at our universities and polytechnics and for those who teach, research and study there.

This is an issue which must be faced now at every level, political and social, and it is not yet being discussed as openly and earnestly as it deserves. We shall suffer the worst of all worlds in higher education if we (a) retrench, (b) unselectively, and (c) without the firm resolve to maintain "excellence" wherever it may be.

Yours faithfully, PHILIP F. NIND, Director, Foundation for Management Education, Management House, Parker Street, WC2, November 21.

From Professor Kenneth Kirkwood

Sir, Michael Howard is surely wrong in saying that the aspects of the Blunt affair which he emphasises "have hitherto been overlooked". Few countries can have been so saturated with spy stories, true and fictional, during the past few decades. Knowledge of "double agents" and their devious ways is widespread in junior schools as well as in All Souls.

More important, and more questionable, is Professor Howard's assumption about the location and perception of the "national interest". It might well have been in everyone's best interest in this, as in other matters of state, to have had things dealt with clearly and openly in 1964.

Yours truly, KENNETH KIRKWOOD, St Antony's College, Oxford.

Once again the traditional images were blamed: Carwell and his Puritans proceeded to break as much stained glass and smash as many medieval statues as they could in the pious conviction that, if they severed all connections with "the cultural establishment" of the day, the kingdom of God would not be long in coming.

Unfortunately, they were wrong: after a period of ferocious iconoclasm all that came was a violent reaction against the Puritans and all that they stood for by which time the church in this country had been greatly impoverished.

It would be easy to suggest that the mistake repeatedly made by iconoclasts, who blame the images they inherit for the woes they encounter, has been to forget that bad workmen blame their tools; but I don't think that my fellow clergy are bad workmen. Their mistake lies deeper: it is a failure to understand that the role of the great verbal, visual, and musical images used in worship is to transform the ordinary into a revelation of the super-ordinary; and this is what Christian worship, faith, and life are all about.

The language of the new liturgies does the reverse, transforming the divine into the ordinary and reducing the vision of the city of God to the likeness of a landscape in suburbia.

Yours sincerely, TONY BRIDGE, The Deanery, 1 Cathedral Close, Guildford, November 19.

Enigma keyboard
From Dr D. W. Babbage
Sir, Your review of Ralph Bennett's *Ultra in the West* in *The Times* today (November 19) is illustrated by a photograph of the German Enigma encoding machine with the keyboard in alphabetical order. I think this must be the original commercial machine from which the wartime version was developed. The keyboard on the latter read:

Q W E R T Z U I O
A S D F G H J K
P Y X C V B N M L

Cryptographers in Hut 6 had good occasion to become familiar with it. Yours faithfully, D. W. BABBAGE, Magdalene College, Cambridge.

Mountbatten statue
From Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. M. Walton, RANM (retired)

Sir, If we are to have an equestrian statue of Earl Mountbatten, please may he be mounted on a really handsome horse? Earl Haig is shown mounted on an animal which resembles the worst type of Victorian rocking horse. He was a fine judge of a horse, being a cavalry officer of the old school.

Those of us who knew and loved the British and Indian Cavalry horses avert our eyes in shame every time we pass Earl Haig's statue in Whitehall. This time, please may we employ a sculptor who knows something about horses? Yours faithfully, H. C. M. WALTON, 346 Woodstock Road, Oxford.

Level of academic standards

From Mr Philip F. Nind

Sir, In his letter about increasing fees to overseas students (November 20) Dr Ralf Dahrendorf writes that the effect of the Government's policy "is one of the destruction of excellence and the severing of international ties". May I broaden the discussion on the effects upon higher education of the public expenditure cuts, to emphasise the importance of ensuring that whatever other consequences and aftermath of the cuts may be, nothing is allowed to be done to destroy excellence.

The remarkable expansion of higher education in the 1960s, which Robbins was perhaps both effect and cause, coincided with a violently strong wave of egalitarianism throughout society which was no doubt appropriate both to the decade in general and to Britain's educational needs in particular. It is not difficult to perceive the advantages of this during those early heady years of growth, but in these austere and slimmer times it would be foolish beyond all political acceptability for the slimming, attachment process to be equally egalitarian. This is not intended to be a justification for the philosophy of elitism, but a plea for sheer common sense—that, if you have to discard it, it is the lower cards you discard first.

We have in Britain some marvelous universities ("marvel": wonderful example of quality)—the *Concise Oxford Dictionary* is this Conservative Government, which claims to be in favour of market forces and therefore surely of the survival of the best in fair competition, going to destroy, or at best to emasculate, some of our finest institutions by sustaining the same egalitarianism in its retrenchment policies? The time has come to be carefully and purposefully selective at our universities and polytechnics and for those who teach, research and study there.

This is an issue which must be faced now at every level, political and social, and it is not yet being discussed as openly and earnestly as it deserves. We shall suffer the worst of all worlds in higher education if we (a) retrench, (b) unselectively, and (c) without the firm resolve to maintain "excellence" wherever it may be.

Yours faithfully, PHILIP F. NIND, Director, Foundation for Management Education, Management House, Parker Street, WC2, November 21.

From the Reverend T. G. Comber

Sir, With the rise in rail fares now official and the reminder that they are already very high when compared with journeys by coach, and even private car, when more than one passenger is concerned, I suggest that the British Railway Board do a deal with the British public. The Senior Citizen's Rail Card, costing £7, is an obvious success from the Board's point of view, in extra revenue earned, as well as from that of the one million holders.

Could not the Board offer exactly the same 50 per cent concession on all journeys to all citizens for a £30 Rail Card, with one considerable restriction, to safeguard against loss on commuter revenue and the overfilling of trains, that travel be only in 1984.

It would not be everyone's cup of tea, but there are many people who travel occasionally and would do so more frequently were it not for the formidable fares.

And, if space permits, may I add that if the Board shrinks from such a venture, remember that railways are justified by the use that is made of them, rather than the revenue they earn. And, after all, at today's rates, half a fare is still quite a lot of money to be in their pockets.

Yours sincerely, TOM COMBER, 32 Alexandra Road, Oxford, November 16.

The meaning of inflation
From Mr Bernard Gibbs

Sir, How do you or Sir Geoffrey Howe or anyone else concerned to explain the truth of the matter, expect to persuade people that it is a lunacy to try to keep down inflation by keeping down prices, and that it is an equally senseless word "inflation" to mean "rising prices"?

Inflation means pumping air or gas into, say, a balloon or tyre, or money into an economic system, in order to do this. In the economic sense it always implies "too much money"—something which will ultimately cause rising prices; but the cause is not the same as the thing caused.

Yours faithfully, BERNARD GIBBS, The Garden House, Filkins Hall, Filkins, Lechlade, Gloucestershire, November 18.

The last goodbye
From Mr H. F. Macdonald
Sir, I am not sure that I can help Mr Brian C. Lowe (November 17) to a formula which would assure his friends on the last Christmas card he sends them of his undying affection for them, unless *semper idem* after his signature will serve.

But I should like to remind him that many charities which supply Christmas cards are going to suffer a loss of income when people are deterred by the high cost of postage from buying their cards. I hope that those who follow Mr Lowe's example will also follow mine by giving a compensatory annual donation to the charity from which they used to buy cards.

Yours faithfully, H. F. MACDONALD, 17 Regent Loan, Edinburgh 13.

MORTGAGES BROUGHT INTO LINE

n the moment that the Bank of England's minimum lending went to 17 per cent and the Government announced major increases in the interest rates on personal savings to come in the Year it was inevitable that building societies would put their mortgage rates.

It is a sensitive issue for the moment. The need for the first-time home buyer is a particular cause for concern.

In addition for many, the inevitable increase in mortgage payments will substantially cancel out the benefit of year's income tax cuts.

Some voices, even within theervative party, are already saying that developments of this on the financial front are wing the Government's omic strategy off course.

fact of the matter, however, is the stabilization of the only and the squeezing out of inflation and inflationary ex-

BACK TO BOYCOTTS

said that the first consequence of the Government's "initial initiative" in Northern Ireland is the resignation of Mr Gerry Fitt from his party's central bodies have rejected it.

At Sunningdale the SDLP, reinforced by the Irish Prime Minister, exacted the Council of Ireland's consent for the price for its cooperation. At its convention only a few weeks ago it was still laying heavy emphasis on an "Irish dimension" and progress towards the unification of Ireland. Perhaps Mr Atkins was advised, contrary to the general impression, that the SDLP was no longer insisting on that element in any new political arrangements. Certainly Mr Lynch in Dublin has recently allowed the "Irish dimension" to drop from the vocabulary of his immediate demands. Anyway, the White Paper explicitly excluded Irish unity and confederation and independence as subjects for discussion at the conference, and on the day of its publication Mr Atkins went even further to block discussion of nationalist aspirations. No doubt

Mr Fitt has gone because he wanted to pick up the agenda Mr Humphrey Atkins has written for his constitutional conference, whereas his party's central bodies have rejected it.

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pectation is inevitably a painful process. There is no point in pretending otherwise. With the underlying level of inflation at its present level, with the Government's borrowing requirements so high, and with the trend of the increase in the money supply so clearly above the required rate, interest rates must rise sharply as the result of a policy designed to put things right. To complain when the inevitable occurs is illogical and politically feeble.

Indeed it was almost certainly a mistake for the Prime Minister to put pressure on the building societies in the summer to hold back an impending increase and for the building societies to have given in to that pressure. Such distortions in the structure of interest rates for political reasons seldom serve any effective or lasting purpose. Even with a nominal interest rate of 15 per cent, mortgagors are borrowing money on which they are paying in real terms a negative rate of interest of some 5 per cent. If the Government are to maintain a credible economic posture, there is no way in which such borrowers can be given any further advantage.

The present situation only serves to underline the fact that in the past decade the building societies have become an integral part of the country's financial structure. Collectively they now have larger deposits than the clearing banks. These deposits have, equally become increasingly volatile and sensitive to changes in relative interest rates. The consequence is that the building societies will have to become an increasing concern of the Treasury and the Bank of England, going way beyond their traditional function as savings and loan institutions for home purchase.

This was judged necessary if unionist politicians were to be brought under starter's orders; but now the nationalist horse has bolted.

The SDLP decision has eased the position in which Mr James Moynihan's Unionists had placed themselves. They have so far spurned Mr Atkins's endeavours and said they will not enter the conference. They have their reasons, but they have put themselves in a bad light over here, where people have difficulty in understanding how the party of supposedly moderate unionism can refuse even to negotiate on the basis of an agenda which is unmistakably favourable to the preservation of the union. Their posture has somewhat affected the stage light, so as to leave the Rev Ian Paisley, hand outstretched in benediction, bathed in a soft glow of compromise. Unreality was taking over. Now it looks as if Mr Moynihan will be able to protest that his estimate of Mr Atkins's conference was right all along.

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Yours faithfully, HOWARD COATS, Managing Editor, Far Eastern Economic Review, Hong Kong, November 22.

Cutting down to size
From Lord Ferrier and Lord Byers

Sir, Having had time to assess and approve the statue of Earl Atlee in the Members' Lobby of the House of Commons, we contend that it serves to emphasise that the Lloyd-George statue is so completely out of scale, as to be a disgrace to the skills of present-day technology to have "L.G." recast to size—otherwise identical in every respect? This would serve to correct the obvious imbalance in a very important Chamber of the Palace of Westminster.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Of mice
and
spacemen,
page 17

All your gift problems solved with
VICTORIA WINE
CHRISTMAS GIFT TOKENS
From 11 wine and spirit merchants throughout Britain—see Yellow Pages for nearest branch.
A sure and simple way to buy any wine, spirit or champagne for a wide range of occasions, gifts, parties and events.

Stock markets
FT 100 411.0, down 2.0
FT 100 411.0, down 2.0
FT 100 411.0, down 2.0

Sterling
\$2.1750, up 10 points
Index 69.6, unchanged

Dollar
Index 66.6, up 0.2

Gold
\$393 an ounce, down \$3.75

3-month money
Inter-bank 17 to 17½
Euro \$ 14½ to 14½

IN BRIEF

Ethylene plant underway at last

ICI Chemicals and ICI's first 6, a joint venture which has built the largest petrochemical plant in Britain, started production of ethylene more than two years late.

The complex, at Wilton, Lancashire, has cost more than £1m to build. Completion has been delayed by design and equipment problems, high inflation and poor production on site, bad weather and labour disputes.

The plant is due to start production in 1980.

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Manufacturing investment shows downturn of 2.5pc over six months

By Caroline Atkinson

Further evidence of an imminent recession with a drop in business spending came yesterday with the publication of official figures for companies' investment and stockpiling. Although these showed a rise in manufacturing investment in the three months to September, this was not enough to bring manufacturing investment back up to its level in the first quarter of this year.

Comparing the latest six months with the preceding half-year, manufacturing investment has fallen by 2.5 per cent. This gives a guide to the underlying trend. Overall investment was 1 per cent more in real terms in the third quarter of this year than in the second. However, the Government expects private investment to drop between this year and next.

Official forecasts also suggest a big reduction in stocks held by industry next year. The figures published yesterday show that manufacturing industry was still building up its stocks in the third quarter, although wholesalers cut their stocks by 580m at 1975 prices—the biggest reduction since the middle of 1975.

As the Government's tight monetary policies begin to bite, industry is likely to cut back sharply its spending on investment and stockpiling. The Department of Industry's latest investment intentions survey indicates a fall of up to 3 per cent in investment this year.

Within the total of manufacturing investment, spending on new building work has fallen by 14 per cent on a monthly basis, and plant and machinery has dropped by 2 per cent.

Spending on vehicles has, on the other hand, jumped by 20 per cent.

Recent investment figures have been distorted by the growth of leasing. This means that some investment which will be used in manufacturing industry is shown as part of the investment of service industries. The latter was about 8 per cent higher in the first three quarters of this year than in the corresponding period of 1978. The biggest increase came in spending on plant and machinery.

Manufacturing stocks rose by £190m (1975 prices) in the three months to September. Stocks of finished goods accounted for £140m of this. There was a rise in the ratio of stocks to output during the quarter, but this was almost entirely because of the drop in manufacturing production.

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BSC ready to establish links with foreign private sector companies reorganization plans

By Peter Hill

Plans for reorganization of its chemicals and constructional steel operations involving private sector participation have reached an advanced stage within the British Steel Corporation.

The corporation, which next week will reveal half-year losses of nearly £150m, is under strong pressure to raise cash in order to meet its target of breaking even by the end of the present financial year.

Detailed talks have been taking place with the Dutch-based offshore construction company, de Groot, which is expected to lead to an extension of its interest in BSC's Redpath Dorman Long subsidiary. Last year de Groot acquired a 43 per cent stake in BSC's offshore construction company. Talks are also taking place with a number of other chemical companies, one of which could include Norsk Hydro, over terms for possible joint venture operation in part of BSC's chemical activities.

The discussions reflect the pressure on BSC to meet its financial commitments and to carry out a major review of its non-steel activities.

There has also been speculation that BSC was seeking to dispose of its RDL interest for some £55m, but yesterday Mr David Waterstone, chairman of both companies and a main board director of the corporation, said of the RDL talks: "We are discussing at some length the extension of a joint venture approach to a number of aspects of RDL's activities."

The Dutch company is now heavily involved in the operation of the platform building company—named Redpath de Groot Caledonian—but RDL has four other main operating divisions and employs 6,400. The company has a turnover of about £10m and losses over the last two years have totalled £9m. A further loss is expected this year, although RDL is expected to return to profit in the next financial year.

Mr Waterstone said that both RDL and de Groot had their particular strengths and the negotiations which are expected to be concluded quite soon were directed to bring those interests closer together.

Turnover this year is expected to be about £100m and a profit of more than £12m. The attempt to secure private sector participation would involve about half the current business, but Mr Waterstone stressed that the carbonization interest of the chemicals operation would not form part of any "hiving off" programme. This would involve maintaining the company's coke ovens in the Sheffield-Rotherham area which supply raw materials to the corporation's steelmaking activities.

Concern about possible redundancies has led to demands from workers' leaders for meetings with senior management at the corporation and these will be held next week.

It is not expected that there will be any major labour cut-back, although some headquarters staff are likely to be affected.

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Iran seeks to reverse loan default decision and blames bank delay

By Ronald Pullen

Banking Correspondent

The Central Bank of Iran was last night trying to reverse a decision to default on a \$500m (about £240m) Iranian loan, which would have serious repercussions on its standing in the international capital markets.

Bank Markazi, the Iranian central bank, claimed in a statement issued through Bank Mellat in London that the funds to pay the half-yearly interest on the loan had in fact been transferred in plenty of time. It blamed Chase Manhattan Bank, the agent bank for the loan, for the delay in moving the funds from New York to London.

The central bank said that instructions for \$4.1m payment of the interest due last week was sent to Chase Manhattan in New York on November 5. With the interest not due until November 15, Bank Markazi argued that the Chase Manhattan Bank New York had 10 days to arrange that the payment to the participating banks was correctly organized. It went on to say that "the fact that physical transfer of funds was frustrated by President Carter's regulations cannot and should not be considered an event of default."

The central bank went on to stress it had no intention of not meeting its financial obligations and claimed that "the delay in the transfer of the funds was caused not by the Iranian government but by force majeure occasioned by the American regulations."

No official comment from Chase Manhattan in London was available last night but there seems to be doubt within the bank that the funds were transferred. Even if Chase had obtained the interest, because President Carter's instructions to United States banks to freeze Iranian assets were issued on November 14, the payment would have been held up in any case, and until that order is rescinded no United States bank has the authority to use any Iranian funds.

Other bankers are taking a less aggressive line on Iranian loans. Banks involved in a \$250m seven-year loan for the National Petrochemical Company of Iran are understood to have decided against seeking accelerated payment.

Public sector borrowing for third quarter up to £3,460m

By Our Economics Staff

The public sector borrowed a total of £3,460m during the three months to the end of September, after allowance is made for seasonal factors. The borrowing, much larger than in the same period last year, brings the total public sector borrowing (PSBR) to £2,730m for the first half of the financial year 1980-81.

This means that if the Government succeeds in holding down the total PSBR for the year to £2,500m in line with its target, more than 80 per cent of the total borrowing need for the year is now behind it. Borrowing is expected to fall off sharply over the next six months.

There have been two main forces pushing up the Government's need to borrow from the markets: its own receipts have been falling below expectations, mostly because of delays caused by strikes. In particular, the Post Office has, it is estimated, cost the Government £1,000m because telephone bills have not been sent out or paid. Of this sum, £500m is expected during the rest of this financial year and £400m in the next.

The other pressure on borrowing needs is the fact that some local authorities have not cut their spending loans as much as the Government had expected. Local authorities borrowed £760m in the third quarter of 1979, compared to £250m in the first quarter. Of this, £70m came from central government, but the other £690m represented their contribution to the PSBR through market activities.

Although borrowing will probably fall quite sharply in the next six months, the Government is expecting the total PSBR next year to be higher than this year, probably between £2,500m and £3,000m. This is because of the effect of recession on revenues and the increased payments which result from more unemployment.

Although this is only a forecast, it is a foreboding one for the Government to reveal more about its borrowing plans. The present intention is to publish a borrowing limit for 1980-81 at the time of the Budget next spring.

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Mr Leonard Williams (right), chairman of the Building Societies Association, announcing the steep increase in building society interest rates yesterday. He said that if no action were taken, not only would new money not be attracted but existing funds would start to drain away. With him is Mr Alan Cumming of the Woolwich Equitable Building Society.

Monthly repayments at	11.75%		12.50%		15.00%	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
£7,000	70.15	52.59	77.00	55.13	90.30	64.05
£12,000	125.40	90.15	132.00	94.51	154.80	109.80
£20,000	209.00	150.26	220.00	157.51	258.00	183.00

Option Mortgage	11.75%		12.50%		15.00%	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
Normal mortgage rate	3.50%	3.70%	4.50%	4.70%	5.50%	5.70%
Mortgage rate subsidy	8.25%	8.80%	10.50%	11.00%	12.50%	13.00%

Monthly repayments	£		£		£	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
£7,000	55.86	58.45	66.78	69.37	80.30	82.91
£12,000	95.76	100.20	114.48	118.92	140.30	145.04
£20,000	159.60	167.00	190.80	198.00	234.00	243.00

Pessimistic Treasury forecasts

Continued from page 1

disastrous this year, and is expected to improve only slightly in 1980. A fall of 21 per cent in the volume of imports is forecast, with little change in the level of exports. The invisible trade balance is projected to worsen next year, as Government contributions to the EEC go up and oil companies "repatriate" more North Sea oil profits.

The Government has, as expected, omitted a forecast for borrowing in 1980-81. It says merely that it expects the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement to remain unchanged as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product implies a rise in money rates.

Investment is forecast to fall next year. A 7 per cent drop in manufacturing investment is projected, with little change in other private sector investment. Public corporations are expected to cut their investment by 41 per cent.

The Government accepts that unemployment will rise next year as output drops. It has made the working assumption that the jobless total will rise to an average level of 1.65 million in 1980-81. However, ministers clearly wish to dissuade themselves from the Treasury's forecasts—they hope that their present tight money policies will change behaviour so that the latest projections prove too pessimistic.

A tinge of hope, page 12

City representative to join board of NEB

By Our Industrial Editor

The Government is expected to appoint a City representative to the board of the National Enterprise Board. The new board, under Sir Arthur Knight, its chairman, meet today for the first time when the announcement is expected.

Sir Arthur and his new team meet against a background of continued hostility from the union movement and the Opposition over the handling of the transfer of the NEB's Rolls-Royce portfolio to the direct control of the Department of Industry, which prompted the resignation of the previous board and Sir Leslie Murphy, its chairman.

The TUC is standing by its decision not to recruit further trade union nominees to the new board. Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, has written to Mr Lionel Murray, general secretary of the TUC, in conciliatory tone, but neither Sir Keith nor Whitehall officials are likely to press for union involvement for some time.

The ramifications of the controversial decision to transfer Rolls-Royce and its relationship with the NEB could be considerable. At its meeting next week, the TUC General Council is expected to consider whether union representatives should resign from the National Economic Development Council in protest.

That meeting takes place only a few days before the next meeting of the NEC, which will mark the first time that Government, industry and the unions have discussed economic policies since the election.

The CBI is anxious that the contract it has built up with the trade unions should not be jeopardized.

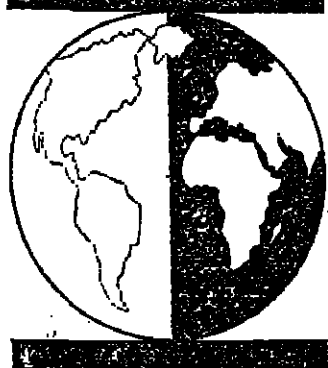
On Monday, Parliament will debate the NEB Rolls-Royce affair, but the anger felt by Opposition MPs exploded yesterday when Mr John Silkin, Shadow Secretary of State for Industry, brought a temporary halt to the committee stage of the Industry Bill which, when enacted, will substantially modify the operations of the NEB.

Mr Silkin sought an adjournment until Sir Keith was brought out of a Cabinet meeting to clarify whether British Leyland wished to remain under the wing of the NEB. Ministerial duties have prevented Sir Keith from attending most of the committee meetings so far.

Mr Silkin complained that Sir Keith had been carrying out discussions over the NEB's future while the committee had been kept in the dark. If Sir Keith was to be removed from the NEB's stewardship, he argued, the committee was dealing with a "very different sort of animal."

After a 90-minute delay the adjournment motion was defeated and discussion on the Bill continued after assurances that Sir Keith would attend next Tuesday's session.

No request has yet been made by Sir Michael Edwards, BL



East Berlin trade talks show bright prospects

Mr R. A. Browning, Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Trade, and leader of the British delegation to the Anglo-East German trade talks in Berlin saw good prospects for at least doubling trade with East Germany.

He based his forecast on the good prospects for orders for British companies such as GKN, Davy International, Cementation, Courtaulds and Babcock.

Mr Browning said the main emphasis of cooperation would be in engineering, mainly automotive; chemical industry; metallurgy and microprocessors.

Oil prices warning

Attempts to shield countries' economies from the full impact of rising oil prices were bound to fail, Mr Fritz Honegger, the Swiss Economy Minister, told the ministerial council meeting of the seven-nation European Free Trade Association yesterday.

Expanding Far East

Falling air fares are expected to make the Far East and the Pacific one of the biggest growth areas for tourism in the 1980s, Mr Keith Riddle, general manager of British Los Angeles.

US crude production

Daily production of crude oil by United States petroleum companies totalled 8,706,000 barrels in the week ending November 21, the American Petroleum Institute has reported.

Fokker-Japan project

Mr François Swartout, chairman of Vliegtuigfabriek Fokker NV, said in Tokyo that his company was pressing Japan to participate with Fokker and United States companies on a medium haul twin-jet aircraft project, called the T29. Boeing would have a 12 per cent share in the venture.

S African trade up

South Africa had a favourable trade balance of 1,803.4m rand (about £500m) in the first 10 months of this year, compared with 603.5m rand in the corresponding period last year, according to the preliminary statement of trade statistics released by the Department of Customs and Excise. Imports during January to October were 5,804.2m rand compared with 5,230.5m.

Tokyo fuel reserves

Fears of fuel shortages in Japan this year were ruled out at a ministerial energy saving measure council meeting presided over by Mr Masayoshi Ohira, the Prime Minister, a government spokesman said. Japan's oil stockpiles have reached 441 million barrels or more than 100 days consumption.

Sting Ray challenge in technological and project management skills

Torpedo contractors will run a tight ship

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Editor

The Ministry of Defence's £200m contract for the Sting Ray anti-submarine torpedo, awarded recently to Marconi Space and Defence Systems, poses a challenge combining advanced technology and project management.

In technology, it is claimed to be four to five years ahead of work in the United States; in project management, a MoD incentive contract is reflected in the discipline Marconi aims to impose on its subcontractors. Development leading to the Sting Ray began 10 years ago and has cost about £90m. The new contract is for final development and initial production; including possible MoD production orders over the next 10 years, the eventual cost of the programme could be about £800m at today's prices.

"Sting Ray will be the weapon on which our anti-submarine forces will be dependent in future for their effectiveness," declared Lord Strathclyde, Minister of State for Defence. "In the coming financial year Sting Ray will cost only some 1 per cent of the defence equipment budget, less than half of 1 per cent of the defence budget as a whole, and about 7 per cent of our

total anti-submarine warfare costs. It represents good value for money."

The name "torpedo" with its connotations of white swifter, periscopes, and trails of bubbles on the surface, is misleading. Sting Ray is designed to be launched from aeroplanes, helicopters and ships and to reach its target by sonar sensing cutting through the confusion caused by enemy counter-measures, and manoeuvring.

Marconi Space and Defence Systems (MSDS), a GEC Marconi company, is the prime contractor for the weapon and will develop the special-purpose guidance computer. Marconi Avionics will build part of the guidance system and actuator systems for the steering will be made by Sperry Gyroscope.

Chloride Industrial Batteries will supply the electric battery, an extremely powerful unit activated by sea water as the missile hits the surface. Lucas Aerospace provides the electric motors for propulsion, and auxiliary power supplies. Plessey is developing advanced large-scale integration (LSI) memory units for the computer.

"As far as I'm concerned," says Mr Arthur Walsh, managing director of MSDS, "everything on this torpedo will be put

out to tender." There will be at least two sources of supply for everything except the final assembly at MSDS.

Sting Ray will provide work for between 4,000 and 5,000 people, amounting to more than 50,000 man-hours. The main centres are Basildon, Rochester, Kidsgrove, Stanmore, Hillend, Portsmouth, Wilsden, Hemel Hempstead, Plymouth, Bracknell, Manchester and Telford.

"Mr Sting Ray" at Marconi is Mr Don Evans, a director of all the company's underwater weapons work. He is assisted on the project by his deputy, Mr John Wright, and by Mr Andrew Glasgow, technical manager.

The trio believe in "healthy constraints and pressures", carefully defined and documented, to keep their suppliers (Chloride, Sperry, Lucas, Plessey, and others) up to the mark on quality and cost. The MoD contract with Marconi provides incentives to complete development and the first production batch as quickly and economically as possible.

Marconi and the ministry are sharing the financial risk. A target cost has been set, on the basis of which an agreed level of profit will be paid. If the actual costs prove greater or smaller than the target, the

difference will be shared.

At each stage in the programme, bonuses will be paid if time is saved or specified performance is exceeded.

Don Evans is determined that potential delays and problems during the Sting Ray programme shall not be obscured by a lack of information. "Every piece of information I have, my opposite number in the Ministry of Defence has."

His opposite number is Rear Admiral Tony Murphy, special project director, and information is regularly exchanged in fortnightly presentations at which key managers report on progress. "There is no discussion," says Mr Evans. "Admiral Murphy and I ask questions."

Mr Walsh is convinced that the experience gained in writing the software for the Sting Ray control system will help GEC in applying computerized control to industrial processes. Commercial spin-off is envisaged, also, from the low-power consumption memory micro-circuits being developed by Plessey.

Beyond the British defence requirement, export prospects for the new missile appear good—provided the lead in technology is maintained and the intended strong project management is achieved.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Training the young for industry

From Miss Daphne Bampton

Sir, I agree with the statement made by the chairman of the Construction Industry Training Board (Business News, November 19) that increased investment in training is needed to overcome the present shortage of skilled workers. But this situation is not confined to the construction industry.

A serious shortage of skilled labour exists in all industries and the only answer to the dilemma is for employers to train more young people in craft and technical occupations than they are doing at present. Many companies are willing to do this, but they must have financial support—and it is not forthcoming.

In recent years the Manpower Services Commission has offered recruitment grants to encourage employers to recruit apprentices above their normal intake. But applications have always exceeded the money available, with the result that allocation has been on a "first come—first served" basis. My

own company, for instance, has taken on several school-leavers this year above our usual requirement, and we are number 253 on the Recruitment Grant Scheme waiting list.

Yet the MSC will be reducing the funds that have been set aside for training boards for the additional recruitment of young persons. Sadly the reduction comes at a time when the need for training more school-leavers, and ultimately increasing the number of skilled workers, is overwhelming.

Every extra permanent training opportunity provided is one less unemployed young person—and one more young person with a future. Surely, this aspect should be paramount when the MSC is considering the best way to use its resources for the benefit of all unemployed school-leavers.

Yours faithfully,
DAPHNE BAMPTON,
Managing Director,
Bampton Stics Limited,
Stratford-on-Avon,
Warwick CV37 9PS.

No help given in cutting out oil use

From Mr R. J. G. Rait

Sir, The previous Labour government introduced several conservation schemes for industry, and these have been continued by the present Government.

However, the criteria one has to satisfy to qualify for a grant are so restrictive that I imagine the Department of Industry has had a problem finding suitable beneficiaries.

The example affecting my present employers is as follows. The Energy Conservation Scheme states that if you can prove that your existing oil-fired boiler is less than 70 per cent efficient the government will give you a grant towards replacement of that boiler by another more efficient oil-fired boiler. The idea of this scheme appears to be to encourage people to use oil more efficiently and therefore to use less of it, rather than switch to an alternative fuel.

The firm I am employed by is a chipboard furniture manufacturer. The firm has decided to invest in a total system that will convert all waste material and offcuts into fuel. This, to a company of our size, is a very considerable investment, but it will mean that our oil consumption will not be reduced—it will be totally eradicated.

However, because the firm is not replacing an inefficient oil-fired system with another more efficient oil burner, it does not qualify for government assistance. I cannot understand the logic behind the rules for this grant.

I have written to the Department of Energy, the Department of Industry and the local MP and have received a remarkable amount of sympathy and remarkably little else. I would be interested to know if other people attempting to save fuel have been confronted by the same bureaucratic nonsense.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. G. RAIT,
Shannon Furniture Limited,
Sensley,
Shaftesbury,
Dorset SP7 3AH,
November 13.

Information recorded by telephone meters

From Mr Norman P. Macdonald

Sir, Your correspondent Mr John Murphy (November 19) deserves congratulations for having been able to persuade the Post Office, who, in my experience, are very reluctant to identify fictitious telephone calls.

Not long ago, on returning from a period of residence in the United States, I asked the Post Office why the information which I had become accustomed to find on telephone bills there (similar to that available to Mr John E. Barham in Brussels (November 20) could not be provided here. The answer I received was as follows:

"I am sorry but we do not know the full details of the telephone system used in the United States and are therefore unable to comment as to why the same system is not used in this country."

The British Post Office system in its present form can only record calls on a cyclo-metric meter and aggregate a total of units.

The meter at the exchange is connected only to your line

and readings are taken quarterly as with electricity or gas. They are regularly tested as routine work by our engineers and faults are rare. Your meter was tested on November 13, and found to be working satisfactorily.

"If I may again draw an analogy with electricity units, it would not be possible for you to be given details of the proportion of units consumed in a quarter by specific electrical equipment; equally, it is not possible for us to tell you the proportion of units you have used during the quarter on any specific rate or call."

Perhaps the Post Office may consider investing some of the profits now made on the telephone service in substituting new equipment for what is clearly an out-of-date type of meter for recording the origin, destination and duration of telephone calls.

Yours etc,
NORMAN P. MACDONALD,
The Mount,
South Street,
Mayfield,
Sussex.

Communications in EMI

From Sir John Read, Chairman of the EMI Group

Sir, Mr Norman Woodhouse is less than fair in his letter of November 15 concerning the recent suspension of EMI News.

It is true that publication of our monthly newspaper has been suspended on grounds of economy—as one of a number of measures taken by EMI to reduce costs—but it is not true to suggest that EMI is unconcerned about the need to communicate facts about the group's affairs to its employees.

Over the last 10 years much

effort has been given to the development of employee communication within EMI, including the production of regular financial reports and video programmes for all the group's companies worldwide. In particular, great emphasis has been placed upon the holding of face-to-face briefing groups on a widespread basis, and priority continues to be given to this activity.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN READ,
EMI Group of Companies,
20, Manchester Square,
London W1A 1ES,
November 20.

Beer duty decision awaited

From the chairman, Board of Customs and Excise

Sir, In his letter (November 21) Mr Robert J. Horowitz says that because the United Kingdom duty on a gallon of wine is much higher than that on a gallon of beer the European Court has ruled that Britain has failed to comply with Article 95 of the EEC treaty.

This is not true. A case to this effect has been brought by the Commission and has been contested by the United Kingdom Government. The hearing took place on October 9. The European Court has yet to pronounce judgment.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS LOVELOCK,
Board Room,
HM Customs and Excise,
King's Beam House,
Mark Lane,
London EC3R 7TH,
November 21.

Unfair

From Mr Oliver Henry

Sir, On page 28 of the brave new Times (November 13) a headline states: "Banking groups fair differently. This is not fair on the first day back."

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER HENRY,
1 Buttermere Gardens,
Aldershot,
Hampshire GU24 9NN,
November 14.

UK may build US-designed pressurized water reactor

By Nicholas Hirst

A Government statement committing Britain to build an American-designed pressurized water reactor, provided it passes a safety study and a public inquiry, is to be made soon, Mr Glyn England, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, believes.

It was a reactor of the PWR type which was involved in the accident at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania earlier this year. The United States has since invoked an effective moratorium on new nuclear power station ordering.

The CEBG, which is responsible for ordering power stations, formed its nuclear policy nearly two years ago. It was largely taken up by the then Labour Government. Yesterday, Mr England said what he would like to see included in the eagerly awaited statement from Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy.

This was to see the present strategy maintained: to reorganize the nuclear industry, carry on with the building of two British-designed Advanced Gas Cooled Reactors stations recently ordered, endorse the previous administration's decision to establish the PWR as an option for the future, provided it received safety clearance, and to include a commitment to orders in the future without specifying reactor type or the precise size of the programme.

Mr England had made these points to the Secretary of State and "had the impression he will take a fair amount of notice" of what had been said. Mr Howell is awaiting a report from the British Nuclear Installations Inspectorate on the Three Mile Island incident, which has been asked for by the end of this month, but it should make his announcement before Parliament rises for Christmas.

If a PWR is ordered in 1982, as expected, it is likely to be the first of many in order to meet energy demand in the year 2000 a more rapid ordering programme will be needed. Once a PWR had passed a safety case and a public inquiry, if the price continued favourably with the AGR, the CEBG could order another in 1983. It will not be necessary in the board's view to have operating experience of the PWR in this country before making repeat orders.

A new structure for the nuclear industry has not been worked out in detail. The CEBG wants a National Nuclear Corporation to end its three-tier structure, for GEC to withdraw from its management contract and for a normal company board to be set up with executive directors. However, the participants have so far been unable to agree the details of how this should be



Mr Glyn England, CEBG chairman, said the Government urged to maintain present nuclear strategy.

done, an dthe composition of the members' shareholding is likely to remain unchanged.

Manpower unit growth attacked

By John Huxley

The Manpower Services Commission (MSC) was yesterday attacked for its "profligate" expansion during a time when it had failed to meet industry's training needs.

Weaknesses in the present training system stemmed largely from the failure of the MSC to provide the necessary stable, long-term framework for industrial training boards, the

Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors said.

At the same time, the Commission had expanded its own organization "in a manner which can only be described as profligate". The contractors say that to place renewed emphasis on the accountability of the training boards to their industries, boards should be responsible directly to the Secretary of State for Employment, not to

the MSC.

Training has become subordinated to "the implementation of short-term cosmetic Government social programmes. The current skill shortages and continued failure adequately to solve the unemployment problem. The federation has asked the Government to consider ways of funding construction training so that all users of building skills contribute.

BSC to cut 2,300 jobs at Port Talbot

By Tim Jones

The British Steel Corporation is planning to cut 2,300 jobs in its Port Talbot plant as part of its effort to meet Government pressure to break even by next March. It is understood that workers at the plant, which represents one of the main economic bastions of the south Wales economy, have been told the plant could close unless production is increased to make it more viable.

Local councillors reacted to the news by calling for immediate priority Government aid for the area where job opportunities are decreasing as the industrial base contracts.

The corporation hopes that attractive redundancy payments will enable it to reduce the workforce from more than 12,000 to under 9,000 without the aid of militant action by the trade unions. The unions, who until now have accepted the need to rationalize the operation, say that any full scale cutbacks to achieve the projected numbers would be unacceptable.

The Port Talbot plant lost £30m last year but is currently getting a near £100m investment in a new continuous casting plant.

More than 1,200 blast furnacemen at the Northamptonshire plant yesterday called for a national strike over the ending of iron and steel-making at Corby next year.

The five other unions at the plant want to start an overtime ban and a series of 24-hour selective strikes instead.

Call for a less autocratic style of management

By Michael Bailly

Management participation is vital in modern industry, Mr Victor Paige, chairman-designate of the Port of London Authority, said yesterday.

Mr Paige, who is deputy chairman of the National Freight Corporation (NFC), said yesterday: "Although it is still possible to be both successful and autocratic, the game is changing and those who doubt it should look to the schools where tomorrow's work force is being educated."

Presenting prizes for an employee competition at the NFC, Mr Paige added: "Attitudes to authority can be expected to change faster now than in the past, and managers must respond. To be successful in the future, managers and supervisors must be able to establish participative relationships and to demonstrate their sensitivity to the views and aspirations of those working for them."

State to review Companies Act insolvency rules

By Stephen Goodwin
Parliamentary Staff

The Government proposes to review two sections of the Companies Act 1948 which deal with offences over the winding up of a business. This is to be done in the light of the comprehensive study of insolvency being carried out by Sir Kenneth Cork and his committee.

Announcing the review to the Commons standing committee considering the Companies Bill, Mr Reginald Eyre, Under-Secretary for Trade, said the Cork committee's report was expected towards the end of 1980. It was hoped to incorporate some of its recommendations in a second Companies Bill proposed for 1980-81.

The two sections of the 1948 Act deal with the responsibility for fraudulent trading and the power of a court to assess damages against delinquent directors.

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Six months to 31st October, 1979.
The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend in respect of the year to 30th April, 1980 of 3.00p net (1979 2.25p) per Ordinary 25p Share payable 3rd December, 1979, and have forecast a Final Dividend of not less than 7.5p net per share.

The unaudited figures for the six months to 31st October, 1979 are shown below together with the comparable figures for the six months to 31st October, 1978 and the figures for the year to 30th April, 1979.

	31st October, 1979	31st October, 1978	30th April, 1979
Gross Income	£384,240	£349,532	£708,750
Net Revenue after all charges including taxation	£226,448	£195,171	£394,218
Taxation charged in arriving at Net Revenue:			
(a) Overseas Tax	£7,083	£6,938	£15,349
(b) Corporation Tax	£22,992	£29,831	£61,885
(c) Imputed Tax on Franked Investment Income	£28,956	£19,412	£159,139
Cost of Dividends			
Preference	£6,125	£6,125	£12,250
Ordinary	£126,000	£94,500	£378,000
Earnings per Ordinary 25p Share	5.25p	4.50p	9.09p
Rate of Dividend on Ordinary Shares	3.00p (Interim)	2.25p (Interim)	9.09p (Total for year)
Net Asset Value per Ordinary 25p Share including dollar premium of	241.7p	241.9p	276.0p
	—	20.1p (36¼%)	16.5p (24%)

(Note:—exchange control restrictions were removed as from 24th October, 1979 and therefore the dollar premium is now no longer applicable).

Distribution of Investments

	%	%	%
Equities: United Kingdom	58.9	59.9	65.1
United States	25.2	25.2	25.0
Canada	2.1	2.2	2.2
Europe	0.4	0.4	—
Other	1.5	1.5	1.2
Total Equities	88.1	89.2	93.5
Fixed Interest	10.1	10.1	8.3
Net Current Assets	1.8	0.7	(1.8)
	100.0	100.0	100.0

NOTES

1. The Net Asset Value has been calculated after allowing for the Interim Dividend and deducting prior charges at par.
2. No provision has been made for tax on Capital Gains. Taxable Capital Gains of approximately £119,000 have been made in the first six months.

EAST OF SCOTLAND INVESTMENT MANAGERS LIMITED,
3 ALBYN PLACE, EDINBURGH, EH2 4NQ.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Profits under pressure

With money markets remaining nervous, and certainly less confident now about an early fall in M.L.R. institutional and foreign investors gave the Government's new short/medium stock a wide berth yesterday.

The gilt market did rally towards the close, however, on the recessionary implications of the latest Government forecasts for the economy. But that the market is going to take too seriously a forecast that is so heavily hedged about with qualifications.

Will consumer spending really rise in the first half of next year? If not, will companies be able to destock as fast as the Treasury expects? And, if the fall in GDP is as sharp as supposed, will it really be possible to hold the PSBR at roughly the same proportion of GDP, at least without further public spending cuts?

Either way, the outlook appears none too bright for the corporate sector—and recent company results are none too encouraging either.

ICI
Help from Ninian

Third quarter figures from ICI look healthy enough, as far as they go, though the rise from £105m to £155m pre-tax this time round was due in part to the absence of the 22m exchange loss recorded in the corresponding quarter. Both sales and profits, however, were down against those recorded in the second quarter of the year, reflecting a decline in volume (by roughly 8 per cent overall, with Western Europe showing a particularly sharp decline of around 16 per cent), which the management attributes in part to seasonal factors, and in part to the second quarter bulge which followed the airport strike.

Overall, prices have risen by roughly 5 per cent, but raw material costs and wages at any rate in the UK have risen a lot more. So one way and another the immediate prospects look none too promising.

The share price, nevertheless, rose by 5p yesterday to 357p. Here, the prospective dividend (assuming that the total dividend by the 15 per cent recorded at the first term) is 8.8 per cent, which in historic terms is highly attractive; but the real test in ICI lies in neither the yield nor a prospect for full year profits of up to 50m (as against £421m) pre-tax: it lies in the fact that a sizable part of this year's profits, and a still more sizable part of next, will come from oil.

Ninian contributed around £19m (after petroleum revenue tax) to third quarter profits, bringing the total contribution from ICI to around £30m; so in the last year in respect for ICI's traditional industries, it will form a useful counterweight. The shares are still worth buying.

Becham
temporarily off course

One of the great growth stocks of the past two decades, Becham, looks a little tired at the edges now. After six months 1979-80 profits are 104 per cent down £65m after a 124 per cent sales gain. The market responded by taking a further off the shares at 119p where the sort of things expected—a yield of around 7½ per cent and a p/e ratio of perhaps 10—demonstrate how some of the glitter has been shed off Becham's market status.

The temptation is to think one should buy on the view that it could be the best opportunity for years to get on board a stock like this. That could be right.

Becham has problems at the moment: pharmaceutical sales worldwide have been down in the absence of much infectious sickness; Iran, a valuable growth market, has badly drifted; and the combination of price controls and competition has affected gains.

Moreover, there is some evidence, notably the United States, that Becham has been selling market share in pharmaceuticals at hands of privateers.

Consumer products business has held up, though Becham has spent heavily in the United States (some £6m net of sales) on Aqua-fresh toothpaste launch, with some

success, though, since it now claims 11 per cent of the United States market.

This sort of spending together with the £105m United Kingdom expansion programme across the product range augers well for the mid-1980s.

Renold
Into the recession

As an engineering pointer Renold could not have been expected to come through the strike earlier this year unscathed. Interim profits drop have been more than halved to £2.4m on a sales fall of 9 per cent to £60.5m.

The hope had been that Renold could avoid the worst by running off its high stocks, but the strike affected deliveries badly. Dock deliveries were not too seriously damaged though with the result that United States profits have fallen only slightly at the operating level to £5m in spite of the dollar's weakness. British operating profits, however, slumped two-thirds to £1.2m.

Renold should be able to recoup some lost ground in the second half but in the face of deteriorating market conditions profits are unlikely to be much above £7m for the full year against last year's £10m.

This suggests a p/e ratio of around nine with the shares unchanged at 88p yesterday and although the interim dividend has been cut fractionally a cut in the final must be possible.

Something like three-fifths of Renold's working capital is tied up in stocks while gearing at possibly 30 per cent is relatively high for an engineer. These are not the best ratios with which to enter a period of rising inflation and deepening recession but Renold's current—its historic yield of 17 per cent—is taking the worst possible view—and that may not be fully justified.

Courtaulds
Through a glass darkly

Courtaulds, meanwhile, is still gazing through a glass darkly, but it is plainly not expecting much help on the trading front for at least the next year. But it is doing the group less than justice not to give it the benefit of the doubt that the restructuring going on apace for some time now will eventually work through to profitability.

When is another matter and until then profits are going to be as uninspiring as the half-time figures yesterday. Pre-tax profits rose by a tenth to £30.2m, benefiting by some £2.3m from loss elimination on plant closures, although exactly where the reorganization costs will fall will have to wait until the year end.

The strength of the pound continues to be a major headache for a group that exports more than half its 244m United Kingdom turnover. If sterling had not strengthened Courtaulds estimates profits would have been £10-£15m higher.

Imports, especially from low-energy cost producers like the United States, have bitten deeply into the United Kingdom fibre side where volume dipped 5 per cent although the low raw material cost advantage in cellulose has helped to keep up margins, but thanks to the stronger overseas showing fibre profits are up overall.

Further down the line, fabrics have shown a slightly better trend across the board, with the protection from the European Agreement and the multi-fibre arrangement still helping. At the retail end the early upturn had petered out by July and the problems here have spilled over into the second half.

Even with a tough trading climate, Courtaulds financial position appears to be under control with the capital spending programme pared back slightly and working capital showing no unexpected jump, so that the cash outflow this year will be only around £10m.

The second-half is unlikely to be as good as last year's so full year profits like to emerge at a little over £60m and to maintain the gross the net dividend has been raised by 4½ per cent which suggests confidence of a sort to support the shares at 80p.

The World Bank, Rothschilds, the Think Tank, and now helping to run a bus company. Is there no stopping Kate Mortimer (is right)? She is part of an injection of young blood into the nationalist industries announced yesterday by Transport Minister Norman Fowler.

Miss Mortimer, who is 33, is to join the board of National Bus as a part-time, and 36-year-old Simon Jenkins, political editor of The Economist, becomes a part-time member of the British Railways Board.

Fowler himself is 42, and his junior minister, Kenneth Clarke, is 38.

Miss Mortimer now works for Rothschilds. As editor of the London Evening Standard, Jenkins began the newspaper's commuter campaign.

The British lease on Hong Kong may run out in less than 20 years, but whether or not the crown colony is to revert to communist China, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank mean to carry on business as usual.

The 44-year-old headquarters building which overlooks Statue Square, is to be redesigned and redeveloped over the next five years.

The final design has yet to be approved but it looks as if the two guardian imperialist lions at the entrance of the old building will be preserved. So will the unique crenellations on the ceiling of the cathedral-like banking hall. London architects Foster Associates got the job.

Chairman Michael Sandberg says the redevelopment "is an expression both of the bank's commitment to Hong Kong and

Unfair competition is threatening an industry which has already halved its workforce in 10 years.

Ronald Kershaw reports

Wool being sorted for length and fineness: the industry earns over £400m from exports.

Wool textiles still beset by problems

Britain's wool textile industry is facing one of the most critical periods in its history. Each week hundreds of jobs are being lost and this year alone some 7,000 redundancies will be reached.

Quite modern factories are closing with distressing regularity as companies are forced out of business by economic stringencies.

The industry desperately needs help and today the Confederation of British Wool Textiles will hold a high level meeting at Bradford, Britain's wool capital, to examine the industry's problems and seek solutions.

It will be attended by the all-party committee of wool textile M.P.s, European M.P.s, metropolitan councils in wool textile areas, and unions in the industry.

At the risk of oversimplification, the industry's situation may be summarised thus. After a decade of enthusiastic co-operation with government policies, adherence to government guidelines, industrial peace, heavy company investment, and an invaluable contribution to the country's balance of payments, the industry finds itself faced with unfair competition from within and without the EEC, crippling statutory charges on its depleted reserves, rocketing interest rates, and a lack of government aid and nobody in government prepared to come to the rescue.

Indeed, judging from the attitude of government spokesmen in last week's textile debate, one might have been excused had one thought the industry was being told it had been featherbedded long enough and should now get going and become competitive.

Ten years ago the number of people employed in wool textiles, including managers, directors, tax ladies and the like, was 142,820. Today there are 71,300. In common with the rest of British industry wool textiles was told to rationalize, increase productivity and generally become more vital.

The wool textile industry thinks it has done a fair job. Government schemes were introduced to ease the change and under the 1972 Industry Act a special wool textile fund gave the industry £15m for grants towards new plant and machinery, building works, reorganization and rationalization.

The provisions of the scheme were varied through the years. For instance, firms were actually paid to go out of business and redundancy payments enhanced with modest government help.

In all, the cash requirement amounted to some £16.5m, says Mr Peter Richardson, director of the Wool Textile Delegation. A second scheme tended to concentrate on encouraging rationalization through mergers and amalgamations. This was



Wool being sorted for length and fineness: the industry earns over £400m from exports.

started at £5m and eventually cost the government a little over £7m.

The total over a period of five years amounted to about £100m for an industry which today earns £400m from exports with additional earnings from indirect exports.

Suggestions that the Government has pumped money into the industry bring a quick rejoinder from Mr Richardson that the Government money generated something like £100m to £120m of investment by companies in the industry which he reckons was a good response from a fairly small sector, which is made up of some 2 per cent of the manufacturing workforce.

The basic problem of the British wool textile industry is that it cannot compete on price with overseas manufacturers. Low-cost labour countries which flood the home market are one problem. Subsidized foreign wool is another.

Many people in the wool textiles business are suspicious of our European partners' pricing policies. It is often asked if everything that comes through West Germany is from West Germany, or is the country of origin East Germany or Poland, both of which heavily subsidize their industries.

There is the classic case of the wool textile town of Prato near Florence, Italy, which for nearly 30 years has been a major supplier of wool to the wool textile industry in Britain. It exports woollen cloth made from reused woollens at such low cost that it has already virtually destroyed the woollen industries of Holland, Belgium, Germany and Scandinavia.

It is suggested that low labour costs result from Prato being a "cottage" industry, but evidence is being gathered which points to the fact that Prato workers belong to an army of some six million Italians who pay no taxes, no social security, no union dues, and officially do not exist.

Political fears of communist domination defer the year in the early 1950s Prato exported to Britain 10 to 12 million square metres of woollen cloth. In 1974 it was 19 million square metres; this year it will exceed 30 million square metres.

A European Commission inquiry has been looking into Prato for 11 months but as yet has reached no conclusions.

While trade unions in the industry believe government help in the shape of selective import controls is necessary, some employers take a more cautious view, fearing retaliatory action by countries against whom strict quotas are imposed.

Another big problem is that

of effluent charges, which most affect scouring companies in the industry. Water authorities throughout the land have embarked on costly improvement schemes. Costs have to be covered. The polluter must pay the cost of treating his factory effluent and EEC regulations demand that effluent be treated.

Britain is sticking by the new rules and some wool textile companies are facing large effluent charges. One West Yorkshire company alone is faced with a bill of £1m a year. Nobody is complaining about the desirability of effluent treatment, simply that wool textiles are paying more than their fair share compared with other industries and are having to pay it when other European partners are paying either none at all or vastly reduced sums.

The recent increase in interest rates is another blow the industry could have done well without. Mr Richardson believes few companies can exist without loans. Small companies operating on a return of up to 10 per cent, he says, will simply disappear when a return of at least 20 per cent must be achieved simply to break even.

The wool textile industry does not consider that it is asking for much. It would like the government to extend short-term working compensation rather than let it as is planned. It would welcome a reduction in effluent charges and government should apply pressure in Europe to end unfair practices.

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Technology

Of mice and spacemen

"Spin-off" never was the right word to describe the transfer of technology from one sector of the economy to another (except insofar as some ideas go round and around without actually getting anywhere).

Those in the business know that, while such transfer does occur, the technology does not simply spin-off by itself. More often than not, it has to be pushed out, aimed in the right direction, squeezed into the right shape to fit the new use, and pulled in forcibly—all of which can be a difficult and painful experience.

But, while the early exaggerated claims for spin-off may not have been fulfilled, there has been a quiet but continuous flow of innovations which are changing the way we live and work.

One would expect a range of aerospace materials, processes, manufacturing techniques and computer programs which could be applied fairly directly to other purposes. One might not expect some of the more unusual examples.

In San Francisco, the familiar cable cars, in use since 1873 (though temporarily off the streets), are propelled by continuously moving underground cables which are grasped by a long-handled grip operated by a "gripman" aboard the car. Each cable is spliced to form an endless loop; the splice is the weakest part of the cable and, if gripped, can lead to worn or broken cables.

Previously the gripman did not know when his car was over a splice. Now, a magnetometer technique developed for spacecraft has been applied by engineers at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Ames Research Centre, near San Francisco, to give him a warning.

The section of the cable just ahead of the splice is magnetized and a magnetism sensor is mounted on the gripping device. As the cable splice approaches a stationary car it triggers a whistle-like signal, enabling the gripman to delay gripping until the splice has passed.

You do not have to go as far as San Francisco to see space technology applied to transport. The British company's Jetfoil hydrofoil boats, now in service between Brighton and Dieppe, use aerospace technology in a number of ways. Propulsion is by water jet, using Rocketdyne Powerjet pumps, which are a direct derivative of the turbopumps used to feed propellants at about 200,000 gallons a minute to the Saturn 5 rocket used on the Apollo lunar flights.

At least one unexpected secondary use for an expensive

spacecraft testing chamber was discovered at the General Electric (US) laboratories at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The large vacuum chamber was normally used to test the performance of spacecraft under simulated orbital conditions; now it is just as likely to contain a rack of rare but wet books.

A vacuum technique is used to dry books or other documents which have been soaked in storms, floods or by water hoses, used in firefighting. Pressure inside the chamber is reduced to one-hundredth of an atmosphere, causing the moisture to evaporate. As it evaporates, it freezes. After 24 hours pressure is increased, but from now on it is used to melt the ice, and the water is drained off.

Spin-off is found in sewers as well as in space chambers. Peter Petroff, an ex-NASA engineer in Huntsville, Alabama, has applied aerospace and electronics technology in a device known as a sewer mouse which automatically measures the flow of water in sewers.

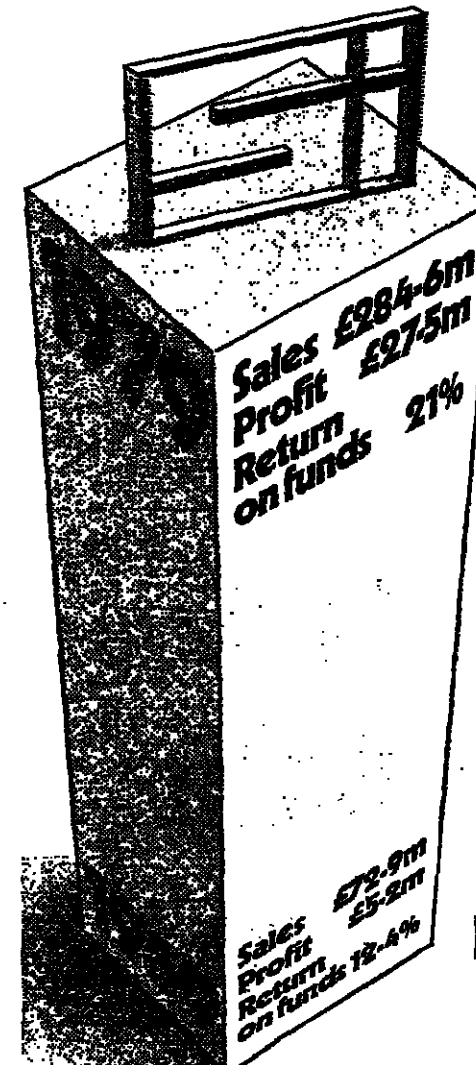
The mouse, so-called because it is shaped like a mouse and has a "tail" of cables connected to a data recorder, houses a pressure-sensitive transducer which senses the depth of water above it. Up to 100 mice (Mr Petroff prefers "mouses") would be used throughout a city's sewer system.

Several aerospace technologies are employed in the sewer mouse: aerodynamics in its shape, a new epoxy material for the transducer housing, miniaturization in packaging the electronic components of the data recorder and satellite-like data acquisition technology.

Among a host of other examples of spin-off are drilling ship positioning systems; insulation of liquid natural gas tankers; vibration testing of nuclear power station equipment to ensure earthquake survival; and an environmental control system used on the Apollo lunar module which has been applied to give a longer transport life for perishable foods.

Aerospace technology has indeed spun off greatly since 1965 when, in a maiden speech in the House of Lords, Lord Wymondley was sceptical about the whole thing. At that time NASA had made much of strengthened bra straps and a new way to produce lemon-squeezers. Four thousand million dollars per annum, his Lordship suggested, was a rather high cost for such products.

Kenneth Owen



"A decade of uninterrupted growth"

**Sales increase—4 times
Profit increase—5 times
Return on funds increase from 12.4% to 21.0%**

"1979 another record year of sales and profit"

Policy for growth

"Our policy in recent years has been to create a more even balance between the manufacturing and distributive activities and to concentrate attention within the manufacturing area on those businesses where a particular speciality or technical expertise can command its place in world markets."

Strong balance sheet

"The ratio of borrowings to total funds employed at 15% leaves ample scope for further development and growth."

Dividend

The net dividend for the year 9.75p, represents an increase of 20.5%.

Extracts from the Directors' Report and the Review by the Chairman, Mr Roy Sison, in the Report & Accounts. Copies of this and the Special Report for 1979 are available from the Secretary, Smiths Industries Limited, Cricklewood, London NW2 6JN.

SMITHS INDUSTRIES LIMITED

MANUFACTURERS OF: AEROSPACE, MARINE, VEHICLE, MEDICAL, TUBING, ARMOURING AND HYDRAULIC EQUIPMENT; CAR RADIO AND STEREO, TIMING PRODUCTS, CERAMICS & INDUSTRIAL INSTRUMENTS. AND DISTRIBUTORS OF PARTS AND ACCESSORIES FOR VEHICLES AND FOR INDUSTRIAL PLANT & MACHINERY.

Business Diary: Band aid • Drinking for Britain

In Hughes, the board secretary of the Development Unit for Rural Wales, finds itself in the unlikely role of wresler.

Hughes, who prefers to an to male voice-chairs, is preparing for a gig next day at the village of Crickland, Powys, by Dr Feeligood band.

He told me that the council's job is to attract industry to the area, but another important duty was to try to keep people in the area from going to the towns.

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Hughes is hoping that the cert will put about 1,500 tons on seats thus breaking in and encouraging big promotional promoters to place Wales on their itineraries.

For those of you who are in of a fresh excuse for having that glass before you ch the train (motorists read

no further), I think I may have stumbled upon something. Having a noogie with Vincent Lavan, the chairman of the Wine and Spirit Association, yesterday he came out with an excuse that would appeal to almost everybody except the temperance brigade.

Lavan, a director of wine merchants Hedges & Butler, says that if only we all drank one more glass of wine a week the benefits—not least to Lavan—would be considerable.

First, says he, British per capita consumption of wine is only one and a half glasses a week and so the extra glass would do no harm. On the other hand, in sending up consumption by two thirds the Chancellor's take (about £500m a year on all alcohol) would go up by an amount that would make him less likely to bang on more duty in the next Budget—thus keeping the price more stable. The French and Italians put away over 20 glasses in a week.

His deputy chairman, Dennis Webb, managing director of Stowell's of Chelsea, then chimed in to say that at least 15,000 more jobs would be created in and around the wine trade.

For the moles among you it would even help the Essex block because Bulgaria is one of the countries British merchants would turn to for extra supplies of plonk! Cheers!

Among the widespread membership of the National Federation of Building Trade Employers, are many small builders/undertakers. One is called Coffin & Son.

Chairman Michael Sandberg says the redevelopment "is an expression both of the bank's commitment to Hong Kong and

The World Bank, Rothschilds, the Think Tank, and now helping to run a bus company. Is there no stopping Kate Mortimer (is right)? She is part of an injection of young blood into the nationalist industries announced yesterday by Transport Minister Norman Fowler.

Miss Mortimer, who is 33, is to join the board of National Bus as a part-time, and 36-year-old Simon Jenkins, political editor of The Economist, becomes a part-time member of the British Railways Board.

Fowler himself is 42, and his junior minister, Kenneth Clarke, is 38.

Miss Mortimer now works for Rothschilds. As editor of the London Evening Standard, Jenkins began the newspaper's commuter campaign.

The British lease on Hong Kong may run out in less than 20 years, but whether or not the crown colony is to revert to communist China, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank mean to carry on business as usual.

The 44-year-old headquarters building which overlooks Statue Square, is to be redesigned and redeveloped over the next five years.

The final design has yet to be approved but it looks as if the two guardian imperialist lions at the entrance of the old building will be preserved. So will the unique crenellations on the ceiling of the cathedral-like banking hall. London architects Foster Associates got the job.

Chairman Michael Sandberg says the redevelopment "is an expression both of the bank's commitment to Hong Kong and

Other appointments announced yesterday were those of Peter Lean, 40, a director of Rio Tinto-Zinc, and John Williams, director of the port of Southampton, to the British Transport Docks Board.

Both companies contract their services out to local authorities. In hundreds of French towns one company is now responsible for water supply, refuse collection, road-mending and new funerals.

When John Nott, the Trade Secretary, sets off today on a trade mission to Iraq and Saudi Arabia he will do so in unusual company. Determined to outdo his Labour predecessors who liked to take with them members of the TUC Economic Council, Nott has gone folksy and so, along with the captains of industry, Nott will be taking Paul Smith, a 35-year-old instrument maker and an AEUW official at GEC Marconi's Chelmsford plant.

Ross Davies

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

First signs that gilts may be settling down

Gilt edged retreated on fears of labour trouble and Middle East uncertainty, and at one stage losses of up to 1½ were being recorded. However, dealers gradually regained confidence after the Treasury's new economic forecasts, and by the close all the ground lost had been regained. Last night gilt edged observers were saying that the market was at last settling down, and some were hawking a rally towards Christmas.

Among shares the clutch of big company news did not have too hard an impact. Assessments of the ICI figures were complicated by special items in the preceding second quarter.

London Merchant Securities hardened a further 1p to 116p after jumping 5p the day before. Buyers still see something to be gained through LMS's stake in concern with an interest in the T block embracing the Tiffany, Thelma and Tony fields. The group is already rated highly as a trust with an impeccable property underpinning, but the oil is a bonus.

The big disappointment was Bochem whose 10.5 per cent drop in interim profits prompted some dealers to suggest that this great group had gone ex-growth and that it was time to look at Glaxo, said to have a more promising range of new drugs. The news from House of Fraser was also disappointing. Here, the crash in profits was severe. The FT index fell 2.0 to 411.0.

Leading industrialists showed little activity ahead of yesterday's long awaited figures from ICI, Becton and Courtaulds and even less afterwards. ICI figures were much in line with best market expectations, mainly as a result of the group's share in the Nuffield Field and were duly marked up up where they finished the day at 357p. But a question mark continues to hang over the group's industrial side which has been struggling and a

reversal of the share price is not ruled out in some quarters. Figures from Courtaulds were well received by the market helped also by a maintained dividend. The shares advanced 2p to 30p. News from Becton was less favourably received and the price retreated 1½p to 119p. Elsewhere, Glaxo slid 7p to 396p, Fisons dipped 5p to 234p and Pilkington shed 2p to 246p. Rank Organisation eased a penny to 181p while Unilever remained firm at 456p.

Oil shares continued to dominate the rest of the equity market particularly those with interest concentrated in the North Sea. Oil Exploration leapt a further 2p to 748p still awaiting the mystery bidder, widely tipped to be BP, which retreated 2p to 364p. Oil Explorations' possible merger partner Lasso, which had expected third party to reveal all yesterday, also jumped 2p to 388p on rumours that it was attracting a possible bid from ICI. Tricentral put on a further 10p to 273 following Wednesday's more than doubled third quarter report while Imperial Continental Gas spurred 25p to 625p.

News of a big oil find west of Claymore boosted International Thomson 23p to 382p and Cawoods gained 15p to 163p. National Carbondising active of late remained firm at 116p. Shell advanced 2p to 346p, Ultramar 8p to 115p while higher profits at Century Oils boosted the shares 10p to 115p. Among companies reporting, Alroyd & Smithers rose 12p to 208p after excellent full year figures and Powell Duffryn advanced 15p to 140p after figures better than most estimates. Disappointing figures from Redland were helped by accompanying news of a scrip issue which helped the shares 2p to 165p and M. J. Gleeson 3p to 36p. A profits setback at Alfred Dunhill saw the share dive 5p to 333p and competitors Rothmans International 1½p to 47½p after its interim trading statement.

Pauls & Whites slid 4p to 114p. In stores, third quarter figures from House of Fraser were greeted with 3p slide to 112p. Burton shares eventually held Wednesday's gain following the franchise announcement at 258p, but the "A" shed 2p to 222p. Marks & Spencer and Mothercare both remained firm at 86 and 172p.

The recent rise in Furness Withy after Eurocanadians announcement that it was dispersing its stake changed to a halt with the shares unchanged at 240p and Milford gave up 2p to 173p. Rumours that Ladbroke was about to win back its gaming licence did little for the shares firm at 149p as Coral Leisure slipped 1p to 73p.

On the bid front Monfort Knitting put on 3p to 88p on news that Palma Investment had taken a 12 per cent stake and that the group intended to reject an earlier bid from David Brown. Stroud Riley were 18p stronger at 40p after the announcement that a private

concern had taken a substantial stake. Thorne Electrical finished the day 4p up at 302p after dipping to 296p early on and EMI moved 2p to 134p. Rumours continued to affect GEC which shed 1p to 328p and Avtray which finished the same amount lower at 233p. Whessex held firm at 128p but Costain were 2p easier at 132p. British

Baker Perkins is now 80p, having moved quickly up from the 1978-79 "low" of 77p. The "high" was 130p. Rumours of a John Brown bid have faded, but there is an investment case based on profits up from £2.14m to £3.36m in five years, a 50 per cent increase in sales and employee and board confidence in further growth this year. A recent rights issue means that this is one engineer unlikely to go short in the coming months.

Vita currently in talks with Vita-Tex advance 3p to 128p while the latter remained unchanged at 71p.

In Electricals, speculation

pushed up the price of Gripco 6p to 118p and J. Hewitt increased 6p to 40p. But interim figures from Sater saw the share price shed 1p to 22p. Mairhead finished 2p better at 246p in anticipation of figures next week and Rascal moved 5p to the good at 215p. M. K. Electrical were unchanged at 176p but Decca retreated 10p to 280p in the "A" ordinary while the ordinary were 2p lighter at 247p.

Rhodesian shares were slightly easier after the activity of late. Cape Asbestos remained firm at 209p but Turner & Newall shed 2p to 116p and Lonrho and Stocklake both gave up a penny at 65p and 99p. Equity turnover on November 21 was 72.72m (10.963 but gains. Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph were, ICI, Oil Exploration, Tricentral, BP, New Lasso, Courtaulds, Becton, Cons Gals, IC Gas, urmah, Shell, EMI, BP, Premier, Ultramar, J. Sainsbury, Rascal, Pilkington Bros., International Thomson, a's and Land Secs.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	d/p	total
Anderson St. Clyde (I)	20,723,239	1,434,132	(—)	1,011.00	4/2	(—3.0)
Alfred Dunhill (I)	31,529,817	3,513,571	(—)	6,014.00	11/1	(—)
Aero & Glaxo (I)	11,161,551	3,513,571	(—)	6,014.00	11/1	(—)
Becton (I)	507,049,000	63,072,721	(—)	2,881.23	1/2	(—9.5)
Brookhouse (F)	70,169,441	2,533,531	9,771,511	2,652.24	14/2	4,651.00
Century Oils (I)	17,310,531	1,506,061	11,914.21	0,810.65	8/1	(—)
Courtaulds (I)	98,030,000	3,012,441	2,891.76	1,311.31	20/1	(—1.58)
Empire Finance (F)	2,833,021	0,161,081	2,401.08	(—1.93)	10/1	(—4.44)
Ferguson Ind (I)	38,261,265	1,081,095	(—)	2,212.00	11/1	(—)
Freemantle Hides (I)	89,080,531	3,613,331	3,732.21	0,951.03	7/1	(—2.32)
M. J. Gleeson (F)	57,052,000	1,889,363	1,511.31	1,631.45	14/1	(—4.14)
Leigh (I)	9,973,331	0,441,030	(—)	2,111.34	18/1	(—)
Pauls & Whites (I)	5,984,531	0,303,531	15,051,039	1,751.75	18/1	(—7.1)
Power Duffryn (I)	96,087,531	6,081,653	6,181.65	2,612.77	31/1	(—)
Prop Partner (I)	1,140,789	0,341,031	4,641.25	2,011.01	7/1	(—2.5)
Redland (I)	225,518,651	2,271,215	11,291,132	2,671.25	31/1	(—)
Renold (I)	60,566,651	2,415,271	2,571.51	1,841.76	25/1	(—3.6)
Rothmans Int (I)	515,704,781	3,141,143	8,361,573	2,512.34	(—)	3,521.34
Sater Elec (I)	1,551,131	0,189,027	2,341,041	(—)	(—)	(—1.0)
Triplex Foods (I)	18,511,762	0,810,271	11,614.01	1,641.76	25/1	(—3.6)
J. O. Walker (I)	3,713,081	0,321,081	(—)	(—)	(—)	(—)

Dividends in the table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a=January, b=loss, c=extra payment of 0.13p in respect of reduction in ACT on last year's final dividend. d=adjusted for scrip issue.

Spring Grove tender planned

By Our Financial Staff
Charterhouse Group's 16,000 shareholders will, this morning, be considering whether to extend their portfolio of investments into the industrial clothing company Spring Grove. Some 15 million of the company's shares are being offered almost exclusively to Charterhouse shareholders by way of a tender.

The shares are being offered at a minimum tender price of 62p through this novel way of bringing a small company to the market. A sale by tender will prevent Charterhouse shareholders being liable for tax on the difference between purchase

price and share price on the first dealing day.
Spring Grove, which made pre-tax profits of £13.7m, turnover of just under £20m, has been in the industrial protective clothing and towel retail business since just before the war, although the company was formed 115 years ago.

Charterhouse has had a stake in Spring Grove since 1934 but it did not become a wholly owned subsidiary until 13 years ago. The investment group are to retain a 40 per cent stake in the company and is expecting to make a substantial capital gain on the flotation of at least one third of its total investment.

Also, Spring Grove employ-

ees are being offered 750,000 shares in their company.
In the tender document, which is going out to shareholders, Charterhouse forecast a rise in pre-tax profits to at least £3.8m, and a dividend of 4p a share for the year ending October 3, 1980.

The minimum tender price of 62p a share puts a market capitalisation of £15.5m on the company but it is expected the final sale price will reflect a much higher value of Spring Grove. Earnings per share are forecast to rise from last year's 10.61p to 13.7p, on forecasted profits which have had to be trimmed back because of last week's borrowing rate hike.

Akroyd exceeds £11m

By Peter Walbridge
The way Akroyd & Smithers, a major jobber in gilt edged, hoisted pre-tax profits from £107,000 to £11,132,000 in the year to October 5 last, showed how well it did in the first half year, and how modestly in the second six months.

In the first 27 weeks, profits before tax were £9.23m so the rest of the year was good for only £1.9m.
However, the latest annual profits are the second best since Akroyd went public through an introduction in June, 1975. The best year was

1976-77 when it made £16m. In the last 27 weeks of the year just passed the group benefited from 14 per cent. Minimum Lending Rate and the battle of Watling Street with its struggle to subscribe for partly paid-up shares. The shares, too, began to move, helped by election speculation.

After the election activity all but died. The second battle of Watling Street and 17 per cent rise in the share price. The books were closed on October 5. Clearly Akroyd is off to a good start to this year, and some say that next year will be active

for gilts as interest rates fall and funding continues.
Akroyd itself, aware that a week is a long time in jobbing, reports: "despite the somewhat turbulent market conditions of the year to date current trading and sales have been encouraging".

The dividend rise cautiously from 25p a share gross to 28.55p, but the directors stress the desirability of reducing the share price. The share price has risen from last year's 10.61p to 13.7p, on forecasted profits which have had to be trimmed back because of last week's borrowing rate hike.

Samuel Props more than doubles

A substantial increase in the dealing profits in Samuel Properties' housebuilding activities contributed to the 70 per cent uplift in gross income for the year to June 30, 1979. Income rose from £8.05m to £13.69m with trading on the residential side chipping in around £6.5m.

Profits before tax rose by 120 per cent during the year, from £1.43m last time to £3.14m.

The company's property portfolio was revalued during the year and showed a £4.03m surplus over cost taking the value to £28.5m. Samuel Properties has started revaluing properties held by associated companies and £1.38m has been taken into reserves from the Elmton Trading Estate which was jointly developed with Bryan.

Braby Leslie

The report in *The Times* yesterday stated that Auto Diesel Braby, a subsidiary of Braby Leslie, had made a loss for the six months ended September 30, 1979. In fact Auto Diesel Braby made a reduced profit due to the closure of important overseas markets and the strength of Sterling. However, orders received by Auto Diesel Braby for generating sets and aircraft starting and servicing equipment during the last three months amount to over £3m including orders placed by British Airways and the United States Air Force, the first received for many years.

R Jenkins tumbles into interim loss

A £1m turnover into a loss is reported by Rotherham-based process plant makers, Robert Jenkins (Holdings), the shares of which are traded on the over-the-counter market made by M. J. H. Nightingale.

For the half-year to September 30, Jenkins slipped to a pre-tax loss of £498,000, compared with a profit of £528,000 in the similar period last year.

This was after charging £180,000 termination payments at Robert Jenkins & Co., against £97,000 for the whole of 1978-79.

Turnover for the half-year was reduced from £6.2m to £4.99m. The company's share price deteriorated in market conditions, the group loss is expected to "reduce substantially" in the second half. For the whole of 1978-79, the group's losses were £667,000. The interim dividend is being held at 10p gross.

Good first half at Ferguson Holdings

Having topped the £2m mark last year, the profits of Cumbria-based Ferguson Holdings are still soaring. Sales rose by 44 per cent to £38.26m in the six months to August 31, while trading profits jumped by 98 per cent to £2.55m. Pre-tax profits are 77 per cent ahead at £1.68m. This compares with £2.24m made in the whole of 1978-79. Current trading continues to be good, but the board warns, it would be upset by a repetition of last winter's weather and industrial unrest. Meanwhile, the interim dividend is being lifted from 2.98p (adjusted) to 3.14p gross.

Compensation for John G. Kincaid

The Department of Industry and Mr A. W. Brookland, of Coopers & Lybrand, stockholders' representative, have announced that compensation under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act 1977, has now been agreed for the unquoted securities of John G. Kincaid & Company. The total compensation payable is £3,809,375. Payments on account of £1,450,000 and £800,000 were made in January and November 1978. Payment of £1,179,375 for the quoted preference shares was

announced in June, 1977. The compensation payable is satisfied by the issue of Government stock. This will be effected by the Bank of England as soon as possible.

Empire Plantations

tumbles: no payment

In the 12 months to March 31, pre-tax profits of Empire Plantations and Investments crashed from a best-ever £1.08m to £16,000 on turnover down from £2.02m to £2.85m. The ordinary dividend is being suspended, against last year's £2.95p gross. The preference dividend of 5p a share will be paid when the board considers that adequate funds are available in the UK, as will the ordinary dividend for the year to March 31, 1978. The board explains that there was a fall in the profitability of Empire's tea estate because of a decline in the crop and the average price.

Scottish Inv Trust

over the £6m mark

Breaching the £6m barrier for the first time, gross income of the Scottish Investment Trust rose from £5.36m to £6.77m in the 12 months to Oct 31. Net revenue, after tax, was up from £2.77m to £3.58m. The total gross dividend is being lifted from 4.47p to 5.56p.

Further growth at Milbury

Following the record pre-tax profits of £1.21m for 1978-79, Milbury's share price, offshoot of St Piran has made further progress in the first six months to September 30. On turnover, up from £4.53m to £5.98m, pre-tax profits rose from £558,000 to £902,000. And the year's results are expected to be "satisfactory", notwithstanding the current scarcity of mortgages and high interest rates. The interim dividend is being lifted from 2p to 3p gross.

Rothmans and Dunhill hit by stronger pound

By Rosemary Unsworth
Half-time figures from the tobacco - to - brewing group, Rothmans International, fell short of market expectations because of the strength of sterling, which hit profit margins, and rising costs which were not matched by price increases.

Pre-tax profits fell by £4.8m to £39.2m while sales excluding taxes and duties rose 15 per cent to £515.7m in the six months to September 30, 1979. Operating profit was slightly hit, dropping from £51.6m to £49.1m in the period.

Sir David Nicholson, the chairman, explained that although the overall volume of cigarette sales had exceeded last year's level and the group's export sales from the United Kingdom continued to grow, there were small declines in West Germany and Canada, where there are strong domestic markets.

But in France and the United Kingdom satisfactory progress was made. Results from Japan, the US and other markets also improved, he said.
The interim dividend has been raised from 1.19p gross to 1.42p, an increase of just over 20 per cent. Sir David said that the persistent fluctuations in currencies added weight to the adoption of a conservative dividend policy.

The group's brewing interests doubled their share of sales revenue from £51m to £100m while its share of operating profit show a similar increase from £4.1m to £7.4m.

But tobacco sales revenue dropped back from £1.1m to £1m while operating profit dropped by £4.3m to £38.1m. Last year, Rothmans made a record £38.2m profit.

Sir David warned that uncertainties in international trading conditions and the financial markets made it difficult to forecast this year's outcome.

Alfred Dunhill, 50 per cent owned subsidiary of Rothmans, was also hit by the rise in sterling. Dunhill's interim dividend fell from £5.2m to £3.5m in the six months to September 30, 1979, while turnover crept up from £29.8m to £31.5m.

The interim dividend has been increased from 6.15p gross to 8.57p as earlier forecasts but the board emphasized that the increase should not be taken as an indication that the final will be raised by a similar amount. A second interim of 0.36p gross for 1979 will also be paid.

The group's luxury products division was sharply hit by the drop in tourist expenditure in London although the volume of business overseas remained relatively satisfactory. Nearly 90 per cent of Dunhill's turnover comes from abroad.

Profit margins have also been reduced by higher expenditure on new activities and the group is cautious about the effect of increased interest rates and probable reduced consumer spending in the next few months.

Redland marks time but scrip lifts payout

By winning on the roundabouts where it lost on the savings, building material supplier Redland turned in a year's same again interim profits.

In the six months to September 29, 1979, the group made a pre-tax profit of £22.27m against a previous £21.95m on sales £38m higher at £225.49m. However, expectations for the second half are "rather higher," and the board intend to pay a maintained dividend on top of an interim one-for-four scrip issue. This will increase the payout to shareholders by 25 per cent.

The main improvement in the first half came from West German subsidiary, B. & C. Factory Brack, which manufactures concrete roof tiles. With the building of houses at record levels the sales volume growth will maintain its momentum for the next couple of years at least.

By contrast a collapse in the volume and price of concrete pipes swung the UK division from a previous £1m profit into a loss. There is also some concern over a downturn in housebuilding in this country will hamper the growth prospects of the concrete tiles division.

However, an improvement in rail links between the main Midlands quarry and the South of England depots should help the crushed stone side to maintain costs.

The contribution from the overseas subsidiaries where the financial year coincides with the calendar year - slipped slightly to £4.95m because of the bad winter months of January, February and March. The second half profits are expected to improve on last year's performance.

With borrowings currently running at around £13m, interest charges for the full year are likely to be high.

The additional charges are covered to the tune of a \$6m acquisition in America. Although this was 50 per cent paid by the German subsidiary the balance has been charged against UK profits.

The shares improved 3p to 164p yesterday where they yield a prospective 7.2 per cent.

FERGUSON INDUSTRIAL HOLDINGS

BUILDING SUPPLIES
ENGINEERING SUPPLIES
ENGINEERING
SOFTWARE
PRINTING

RECORD INTERIM RESULTS

	6 months ended 31.7.79 (unaudited)	6 months ended 31.8.78 (unaudited)	
Sales	2,800	2,800	
Trading profit	2,557	1,288	+44%
Interest payable	536	236	+92%
Employees' profit sharing	1,961	1,062	
Profit before taxation	1,063	953	+180%
Taxation	595	252	+76%
Extraordinary items	1,178	701	
Profit available for distribution	1,178	860	+37%

Business appointments

Mr J. Raisman is new chairman of Shell Chemicals

Mr J. M. Raisman has become chairman of Shell Chemicals UK, Mr Raisman, who is deputy chairman and chief executive of Shell UK, succeeds Mr W. C. Thomson who has recently become managing director of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group. Mr M. J. Wile is moving to the UK to become managing director of Shell Chemicals UK. He succeeds Mr Thomson as Chemical UK managing director. Mr W. C. Thomson, London, is Shell International Chemical.

Mr Simon Jenkins becomes a part-time member of British Railways Board

Mr Simon Jenkins becomes a part-time member of British Railways Board and Mrs Kate Mortimer, an executive with Rothmans' merchant bank, becomes a part-time member of the National Bus Co.

Mr Malcolm Wilcox is to succeed Mr John Carr as chairman of Midland Bank Finance Corporation

Mr Malcolm Wilcox is to succeed Mr John Carr as chairman of Midland Bank Finance Corporation. Forward Trust and Midland Mortgage Lending when Mr Carr retires on December 31. Mr Wilcox will continue in his executive position as a director and chief general manager of Midland Bank.

Mr Ken Wrench becomes pensions manager

Mr Ken Wrench becomes pensions manager.

Options

Traded options continued to take a back seat yesterday and the results from ICI, Courtaulds and Becton seemed to make very little difference. Total contracts amounted to 583 compared with the previous day's figure of 612. Some interest was shown in Courtaulds and ICI ahead of just after the figures for this year were described as thin.

Traditional options were slightly more active mainly on the back of the interest being shown in North Sea shares with calls being arranged in Tricentral, Ultramar, and RCA.

Registered office and U.K. Marketing Headquarters: Colmore House, 91, George Street, New Malden, Surrey.



First nine months' results

The Board of Directors of Imperial Chemical Industries Limited announce the following unaudited trading results of the Group for the first nine months of 1979, with comparative figures for 1978.

1978	1979		1979
First Nine Months	Year	First Nine Months	Year
£ millions	£ millions	£ millions	£ millions
3,341	4,533	Sales to external customers	3,893
334	421	Profit before taxation and grants	415
160	225	After providing for: Depreciation	181
26	39	Exchange loss on net current assets of overseas subsidiaries	29
75	100	Taxation less grants	84
259	321	Profit after taxation and grants	331
-11	-17	Applicable to minorities	-16
248	304	Profit applicable to parent company before extraordinary items	315
-7	-3	Extraordinary items	-9
241	301	Profit applicable to parent company after extraordinary items	306

Group sales in the first nine months of 1979 were £3,893m (1978 £3,341m) an increase of 17%. The value of sales in the UK increased by £298m to £1,644m and in overseas markets by £254m to £2,249m. The f.o.b. value of exports from the UK was £785m (1978 £641m).

Sales in the third quarter (£1,326m) were lower than those achieved in the second quarter (£1,382m). The decrease was due to volume reductions, partly of a seasonal nature, offset to some extent by price rises to compensate for feedstock cost increases.

Profits in the third quarter were lower than those achieved in the second quarter. Selling price increases were more than offset by reductions in volume, higher pay for UK employees and further raw material price increases. Oil trading profits (including Ninian) continue to make a significant contribution to Group results, and in the third quarter these amounted to £30m after the provision of £8m Petroleum Revenue Tax.

The following table summarises the quarterly sales and profits before taxation:

FINANCIAL NEWS

House of Fraser slumps

Richard Allen
House of Fraser, the Harrods department store group, saw its tumble £4m to £2.8m in three months to October 27. Trading conditions continued to deteriorate in the wake of the VAT increase. As a result, profits for the nine months of the year down 30 per cent to £10.6m. The group's chairman, Sir Hugh Fraser, warned at an interim stage that trading had become particularly difficult since the June VAT increase. However, the actual loss was much worse than stock market observers feared. He shares dropped 3p to 175p yesterday.



Sir Hugh Fraser, chairman of the House of Fraser.

He says that trade showed signs of picking up in mid-October and since the beginning of the present month sales

have been running at more than 17 per cent above those of the same period last year.

Despite the third-quarter slump sales for the first nine months of the year are 11 per cent ahead at £415m and trading profits are down less than 10 per cent at £23m.

But interest charges have climbed by two-fifths to £5.7m and the depreciation charge is almost £1m higher at £6.8m.

Meanwhile, interest in House of Fraser shares continues to centre on speculation that Louhio could make a takeover move. Louhio holds fractionally less than 30 per cent of House of Fraser and its chairman, Mr. Roland "Tiny" Rowland is deputy chairman of Fraser.

Since Louhio made its financial deal with American billionaire, Mr. Daniel K. Ludwig, earlier this year speculation that a full bid is in the offing has only increased.

French Kier ends half year 10 pc up

Despite difficult trading conditions in the British construction market and bad weather, French Kier Holdings made a 10 per cent increase in both profit and turnover during the first half.

Pre-tax profit amounted to £3.6m and turnover totalled £88m in the six months to June 30, 1979.

Profit contribution from Construction in Europe division fell to £1.6m because of "particularly difficult trading period in Robert Marriott Group".

Explained Mr. John Mott, the chairman. This decline was, however, offset by an increased contribution to £1.5m from Construction Overseas. The anticipated profit increase from Property Development and Investment came through at £250,000 while Products and Services profit rose slightly to £200,000.

An interim dividend of 1.35p gross has been declared compared with 1.23p, which represents a 15 per cent increase. Earnings per share have risen to 3.7p compared with 3.2p.

Mr. Mott added that he expects a "satisfactory outcome to the group's operations".

there would be no cutback in the group's two year £5m capital expenditure programme.

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Powell Duffryn slips to £6.1m after strike and lower demand

By Alison Mitchell
The £1m cost of the engineering strike coupled to a downturn in demand has left Powell Duffryn with reduced interim earnings.

In the six months to September 30, 1979, pre-tax profit slipped from a previous £6.6m to £6.1m on turnover up 13 per cent to £176m.

Stripping out interest charges, which amounted to £1.6m against £1.47m last time, profits at the trading level increased by almost 10 per cent to £7.8m.

Chairman Mr. Christopher Aston admitted that this charge would rise further at the year end because of rising interest

rates and bigger borrowings. Gearing on this year's balance sheet is likely to amount to 20 per cent against 15 per cent last time.

Although capital spending, which includes the recent acquisition in America, is currently running at an annual rate of £20m, the group has no plans for a rights issue.

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With two more ships on order the shipping side on expected to continue to increase profits while the other divisions all show rising contributions.

Second half earnings will be helped by a first time contribution from the recently acquired National Pump Company in Arizona and the new bulk liquid terminal in Australia which is now on stream.

For shareholders there is a 9 per cent increase in the interim dividend to 6p and the chairman is confident that the final payment will be raised by the same amount provided second half profits continue to improve.

Brockhouse lower

By Rosemary Unsworth
Brockhouse, the West Bromwich-based engineering group, has suffered along with the rest of the sector because of the summer strike and the haulage dispute last winter.

Pre-tax profits fell from £3.5m to £2.5m while turnover rose by a fraction from £69.3m to £70.1m in the year ending September 31, 1979. The general engineering division's profit was halved to £443,000 while the handling and process plant division results fell from £1.3m to £471,000 profit during the period. But despite the results, Mr. Reg Parkes, chairman, said

there would be no cutback in the group's two year £5m capital expenditure programme.

The sale of the company's South African subsidiary realised £337,000.

A final dividend of 3.45p gross has been recommended.

Murdoch calls off bid for Herald

The bid by Australian newspaper chief Mr. Rupert Murdoch to win control of the country's biggest press group, the Herald and Weekly Times, has come to an abrupt end.

Mr. Murdoch withdrew his takeover bid and sold his 31m shares for about £519.3m (about £36m).

But while Herald executives celebrated their rebuff of Mr. Murdoch's attack, their retention of control of the group, business experts were trying to work out who emerged as victor.

Conservative papers in Melbourne, where the Herald group is based, claimed that Mr. Murdoch planned to use his profits to help start a new newspaper in Melbourne in competition with the Melbourne Herald—the Herald group's main publication.

The Murdoch takeover bid ended in the face of tough opposition from Herald shareholders and severe criticism of a number of fronts.

The Australian Journalists' Association as well as federal politicians attacked the bid as a Murdoch attempt to gain monopoly of Australia's media.

Mr. Murdoch said that his group may wish to reconsider its position regarding its unsuccessful bid for control of the Herald and Weekly Times Group.

Mr. Murdoch said in a statement that despite the Herald's planned one-for-two bonus share issue, stock closed at AS3.45 in Melbourne.

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earnings during the first seven months rose to 176.8m francs (about £19m) from 169.4m in the similar 1978 period.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, the company expects to pay an unchanged dividend for 1979. Last year it paid a net of 18 francs per share.

Company chairman M. Michel Clapain told a group of financial analysts that current world uncertainties should not pose any major problem in the recycling of dollars. It was easy to replace the dollar as an international asset, he said, but the country wanted its currency to become a reserve asset, he said.

Alusuisse forecast
Schweizerische Aluminium AG (Alusuisse) of Switzerland expects results for 1979 to be similar to last year's, the company has told shareholders.

Group net profit in 1978 fell to 94.1m Swiss francs (about £25.4m) from 152m.

Group's third party sales in the first nine months of this year were 16 per cent higher than at the same time a year ago, but would have been 19 per cent higher at unchanged exchange rates.

Boeing seeks listing
The Boeing Corporation has asked for a listing of its shares on Swiss bourses from early next year, a Zurich bourse commission spokesman announced.

An application was received by the federal bourse authorities but neither they nor the National Bank have yet given their final approval, he said.

Financiere-Suez
Cie Financiere de Suez, holding company for a major French private banking group, says that

The general requirement for listing of foreign shares on Swiss bourses is 10m francs market value of stock held by at least 250 different Swiss investors. Union Bank of Switzerland will present the company to financial analysts in mid-January.

Goodrich-Pirelli deal
B F Goodrich Company of Ohio, says it has reached tentative agreement to sell the assets of its Brazilian tyre manufacturing subsidiary B F Goodrich do Brasil SA to Pirelli SA Cia Industrial Brasileira for an undisclosed amount.

B F Goodrich says the sale, if approved by the Brazilian government, will have a moderately positive effect on income in the fourth quarter of 1979.

Barlow Rand
The improved performance by various listed Barlow Rand subsidiaries that have reported in the past two weeks is reflected in the audited figures by the holding company—Barlow Rand, South Africa's largest industrial group.

Turnover has increased by 41 per cent or R659.6m (about £341.7m) from R1,624.0m to R2,283.6m. This gives the group a turnover of over R10m per working day.

The group's margins have also improved. Pretax profit has risen by 47 per cent or R101.6m to R315.7m from £214.0m.

Earnings per share at 118.6 cents have grown by 34 per cent or 30 cents on a higher ordinary and preferred ordinary share capital. The total dividend of 38 cents for the year against 30 cents for 1978 represents an increase of 27 per cent. The dividend is covered 3.1 times.

Briefly

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MAURICE JAMES ENDS
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HIRST & MALLINSON
A property formerly used by Hirst's removals division, but now surplus to requirements, has been disposed of for £38,000 cash.

MAURICE JAMES ENDS
Arrangements for proposed reduction of capital being concluded; repayment will become effective about middle of 1980. Interim dividend of 0.75p, payable January 2.

GEC-AVEAYS
GEC's offer for Aveays, which closed on November 23, will be extended for at least 14 days to the event that it becomes unconditional.

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HIRST & MALLIN

Strathclyde loss

Production losses resulted in turnover falling by nearly 12.5

		£m Investment Total	£m Mfg	£m total stocks
1976		7,599	3,341	700
1977		8,418	3,637	970
1978		8,764	3,853	895
1977	Q1	2,047	876	463
	Q2	2,059	896	452
	Q3	2,123	919	-79
	Q4	2,188	944	134
1978	Q1	2,182	945	191

Commodities

COPPER was barely steady.—Afternoon Cash wire bars, \$98.80; Bar—A metric ton three months, \$1,000.50. Sales, 1,250. Cash cathodes, \$964.64; three months, \$1,001.00. Sales, 1,250. Cash cathodes, \$964.64; three months, \$1,001.00. Sales, 1,250.

KV7H-79, Sales, 1,100 tons. Morning—Cash wire bars, \$994.95; Three

months, £1,005-11-004. Settlement, 1000 tons. Cash
Cathodes, £871-71-30p. three months
\$982.83. Settlement, \$971.50. Sales,
325 tons.

WILVER was: Spot—Bullion market
silver levels, £421-73-80p per tray
United States, \$100.00. Cash
1619: three months 765-30p
116-36-90c. six months, 781-30p
1168-30c.: one year, 825-80p.
1758-30c.: London Metal
Exchange, 1758-30c. Cash
1758-30c. Cash, 724-34p.
months 762-6-p. Sales, 10 lots of
10,000 tray ounces each. Morning,
Cash, 745-5-14-0n. three months,
Cash, 746-6-p. Settlement, 1447
lots. Sales, 73 lots.

[illegible]

Sterling Spot and Forward			
Market rates 1044 1/2	Market rates 1045 1/2	Market rates 1046 1/2	Market rates 1047 1/2
1 month	1 month	1 month	1 month
3 months	3 months	3 months	3 months
6 months	6 months	6 months	6 months
9 months	9 months	9 months	9 months
12 months	12 months	12 months	12 months

[illegible]

Sterling: other markets		Dollar spot rates	
Ireland	1.0115-1.0635	Canada	117.62-117.65
Australia	1.0815-1.0885	France	3.4975-3.5025
Bahrain	0.2065-0.8255	Germany	3.9775-3.9825
Finland	1.1355-1.2415	Holland	28.25-28.55
Greece	80.80-81.60	Italy	1.7610-1.7620
Hongkong	10.8250-10.8525	Japan	30.10-30.15
Iran	Not available	Spain	66.18-66.21
Kuwait	0.5025-0.8255	Sweden	84.17-82.25
Taipei	4.740-4.775	Switzerland	1.0175-1.0190
U.S.	87.90-89.30	France	1.4775-1.4825
New Zealand	2.10-2.15	Italy	1.7610-1.7620
Saudi Arabia	1.5105-1.7205	Japan	258.40-258.60
Singapore	1.7475-1.7575	Switzerland	1.6400-1.6405
South Africa	1.7590-1.8255	Canada	84.97-85.00

*Inland quoted in U.S. currency.

Belgian franc	39.8345	40.2684	-0.97	+0.91	-1.53
Danish krone	26.4634	27.1927	-0.61	+0.61	1.63
Deutsche Mark	2.4837	2.5526	-0.12	+0.12	1.15
French franc	3.5532	3.8226	-0.36	+0.91	2.357
Dutch guilder	2.74745	2.77194	-0.29	+0.56	1.315
Irish punt	0.669141	0.670601	-0.22	+0.22	1.665
Italian lira	1132.66	1132.66	-0.06	+0.06	0.000

* changes are for the ECU, therefore positive change denotes a decrease in the value of the currency.

* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's weight in the divergence limits. Adjusted calculated by The Times.

Discount market

Business tended to be rather slow throughout, but for the new tap issues, there might have been a small surplus. The question in the market was that about the new stock was:

	1 month	3 months	6 months
Proposed New Issues	100%	100%	100%
Traded Debt	100%	100%	100%

houses paying up to 16 1/2 per cent or 16 1/2 per cent at one stage.

Factors working against the market included a small per Treasury bill take-up, small excess of Revenue receipts over Eschequer disbursements, and subscription monies for the new

1 month	15 1/2	11 months	16 1/2-18
3 months	15 1/2-16	12 months	16-18 1/2

1 month	15 1/2-16	6 months	16-18 1/2
3 months	15 1/2-16	12 months	16-18 1/2

1 month	15 1/2	3 months	17
6 months	16	6 months	18 1/2
12 months	17 1/2	7 years	19

Rates went firmer on nearly all paper maturities. The buying rate for "hot" Treasury bills edged up to 16 5/32 per cent.

[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

Weaker tone

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 19. Dealings End, Dec 7. § Contango Day, Dec 10 Settlement Day, Dec

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]

PERSONAL CHOICE

John Alderton and Gordon in the repeat screening of *The Remains of the Day* (BBC 1, 7.35)

ody can talk me out of my conviction that the five minutes which BBC Television has allotted to *Points of View* (10.00pm), in which Barry Took comments on viewers' about the week's programmes, is anything but a theologically gesture. You have only to look at the glossy in Mr Took's eyes as he tries to keep up with a racing know that he hasn't even the time to deliver his obligatory wower, let alone make anything resembling a constructive in this spot, or it doesn't. If it does, then it must stop: it look like an emergency filler and allow Mr Took the take a breath and the viewer the time to absorb a point

I not know. I must admit, that 40 per cent of the available sports centres is taken up by badminton, and I am d to the BBC for this information. I feel I will be indebted orporation, too, for much more enlightenment about the badminton not to play it, as a result of *Better Badminton* (7.00) a new series of five programmes that begins tonight. I am that the tuition will be of a high order, our teacher is owney, an England national coach who has helped shaper, eer of champions like Gillian Gilks. Tonight, too, we go to ton House, the Duke of Beaufort's seat, to see how the as played in the 1870s.

atically speaking, the night's music-making on Radio 3 is ted by a complete performance of Shostakovich's four-act *Macbeth* of Mtsensk (7.30, 8.35 and 9.50). The baton is ovich's. His wife, the soprano Galina Vishnevskaya, sings a role, one which is only a distant cousin of Shakespeare's. A remarkable cast includes Petkov, Krem, Gedda and Tear. As for the spoken word tonight, I would recommend her Burton (Radio 4, 4.10) in which P. H. Burton, the who gave a young Welsh actor called Richard Jenkins a 'name as well as a new direction in life, talks about '... the interview, with Paul Ferris probing the questions, orded in Florida where the other Burton now lives.

THE SYMBOLS MEAN: + STEREO; * BLACK AND WHITE; * FEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Daville

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools, Colleges, 9.05
Rendez-vous: France, 9.52 Look
and Learn: Skyhunter (9), 10.15
Tallabot, 10.35 Going to Work
(Bourculture), 11.00 Hya o Fyd
(r).
11.25 You and Me: repeat of *Going
Down*.
11.40 For Schools, Colleges, 11.40
Everyday Maths.
12.05 pm Teatime Ltd (4). Both
repeats. Closedown at 12.30.
1.45 News and weather.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: includes
Peter Seabrook's gardening fea-
ture, *Die This*.
1.45 Cambridge Green: the story
of Roger Varley the Sweep (r).
2.02 For Schools, Colleges, 2.02
Claire Rayner's personal view, 2.35
A Good Job with Prospects (news
and accountability); both repeats.
Closedown at 3.00.
3.20 Pobel y Cwm: Welsh serial.
3.55 Play School: the story of The
Magic Fan.
4.20 Madding: cartoon from
Czechoslovakia.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: same as
BBC 1, 3.55. Closedown at 11.25.
2.00 pm International Tennis:
quarter-finals day in the Davis
Challenge, from Brighton. David
Vine officiates. See also 8.00.
Close down at 4.40. 5.40 Laurel
and Hardy: *The Champ*. Stan and
Olive take charge of a champagne
when a circus closes down.
6.05 Monkey: no connection with
the previous programme, but
another episode of this Japanese-
made story about an odyssey in old
China.
6.50 Animation at Cambridge:
more cartoons from the Cambridge
Film Festival.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools, 9.30 English
Programme: part 1 of a play, *The
Piano*, 8.57 Stop, Look, Listen
(languages), 10.10 Watch Your Lan-
guage (predications), 11.10 Reading
with Lenny, 11.32 Leapfrog
(shadow), 11.39 Flashback (car
industry).
12.00 The Learning Tree: a lesson
in rubbish.
12.10 pm, Once Upon a Time: the
story of the Little Red Hen, told
by Peter Davison.
12.30 The Sullivan: stories of an



Shields, Yarnell and Muppets: ITV, 7.00

4.25 Jackanory: Joseph O'Connor
continues reading his own story
*King Canoodun and the Horned
Cheese*.
4.40 Hong Kong Phooey: cartoon.
4.55 Crackerjack: long-running
children's programme.
5.35 *Ivor the Engine*: the story of
The Trumpet.
5.40 News: with Angela Rippon.
5.55 Nationwide: includes Desmond
Lynam's Sportsweek.
6.00 Tom and Jerry: the cartoon
South Bound Bocking.
7.05 Are you Being Served? comedy
series about a department store.
Tonight: an experiment in self-
censorship.
7.35 My Wife Next Door: repeat of
the 1972 series of comedies about a
newly-divorced couple (John
Alderton and Hannah Gordon).
8.05 Fennec: episode 7 of this
unpublished family saga. The time
is now 1912, and Janina still cannot
forget the awful affair in Brighton.
9.05 News: with Peter Woods.
9.25 Lena Marcell in Concert: the
Scotts singer, in a show recorded
under the Big Top at Falkirk
Trove.

7.00 Better Badminton: first of
a new series in which Jack Downey,
who has coached many champions,
teaches us how to improve our
game (see Personal Choice).
7.25 News: with subtitles for the
hard of hearing.
7.35 In the Country: Angela Rip-
pon at the game fair at Bowood
House, Wiltshire, in the company
of Phil Drabble, Joe Henson and
Gordon Bennett. Also, hints on
the fishing and cooking country
dishes.
8.05 International Tennis: more
live action in the Davis Chal-
lenge, from Brighton, plus high-
lights from early games today.
9.00 Film: *Milred Pierce* (1945).

Australian family during the
Second World War.
1.00 News: with Peter Sissons.
1.20 Thames News: with Robin
Houston.
1.30 Simply Sewing: making a ka-
ran. With dress designer Vela.
2.00 After Noon Plus: an interview
with a man who has persistently
been told to get out of his country
charges. Also Derek Nimmo, the
comedian, shows how to mix a
favourite cocktail.
2.45 Film: *Part of the South Pacific*
(1957). Virginia Mayo, Pacific
pearls, and their guardian, a giant
octopus.



Shields, Yarnell and Muppets: ITV, 7.00

10.00 Points of View: Barry Took
comments on viewers' letters (see
Personal Choice).
10.05 Phil Silvers: re-run of one of
the old Sergeant Silko stories, to
remind us how good they were.
11.35 Film: *Madigan* (1988) New
York police drama, starring
Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda
and Roger Stevens. It pulls no
punches and, in the canon of direc-
tor Don Siegel's films, is highly
regarded. Closedown at 12.30.

Regions

12.00 News: Scotland, 9.25 am
News, 10.00 News, 10.30 am
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